

Station 9, Færøe Channel, H.M.S. "Triton" Expedition, August 23, 1882; lat. 60° 5' N., long. 6° 21' W.; 608 fathoms; mud. One specimen, ♂.

Greenland (Dewhurst); north-east coast of the United States, 85 to 843 fathoms (Verrill); coast of Norway (Sars).

A few words are necessary regarding the synonymy of this species as given above. The number and beauty of the drawings, which Professor Verrill has given of his types, have enabled me to establish beyond any doubt their identity with the specimens obtained from the Færøe Channel; it is equally certain that the form figured by Professor Sars is conspecific with them. That the specimens in my hands are the same as *Octopus arcticus*, Prosch, I was able to establish in 1884 when I had the opportunity of comparing them with the types in the Copenhagen Museum. The identity of this form with *Octopus grænlandicus* (Dewhurst) cannot be proved, unless it were shown that only one species of *Octopus* occurs on the coast of Greenland, the original description being quite valueless.

### *Octopus pictus*, Brock.

1882. *Octopus pictus*, Brock, Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool., Bd. xxxii. p. 603, pl. xxxvii. fig. 3  
(non Verrill).

1883. „ *maculosus*, Hoyle, Proc. Roy. Phys. Soc. Edin., vol. vii. p. 319, pl. vi.

1884. „ „ E. A. Smith, "Alert" Report, p. 36, pl. iv. fig. c.

*Habitat*.—Port Jackson, Australia (Brock, E. A. Smith); Australia (Hoyle).

To me, personally, a melancholy kind of interest attaches to this species, for it is the first I ventured to describe, being unaware that Dr Brock had, a few months previously, as an appendix to the elaborate anatomical work above quoted, described several new species, among which the present form was one.

Although this species does not occur in the Challenger collection, it appears desirable to mention it here partly as introductory to the following variety, and partly for the sake of rectifying the synonymy.

Brock's original diagnosis may be translated here: "Mantle of the specimen, preserved in alcohol, slightly broader than long. The arms are subequal, not very long compared with the body, and in order of length 3, 2, 4, 1. The second and third pairs are almost exactly equal, and not quite twice as long as the body. Arms tapering constantly towards the tips. Suckers in two regularly alternating series continually decreasing in size. The first three or four smaller than the rest and arranged in a single series. Umbrella equally but slightly developed. Ocular cirri wanting.

"Ventral and inner sides of the arms dull ochre yellow, dorsal and outer sides of the arms darker, somewhat regularly marked with large blackish brown spots, fused at the