

## OCCASIONAL NOTE.

No. I.

### *SEPIA BRAGGI*, VERCO.—A RECORD FOR THE STATE.

By C. HEDLEY, Conchologist.

Heavy and continuous gales had prevailed for a fortnight, during which eighteen inches of rain had fallen and several wrecks had occurred on the coast. A Museum party then spent a profitable afternoon inspecting the pelagic drift on Maroubra Beach. On 8th August, 1908, a tremendous sea still running, we found a continuous purple streak of *Ianthina*, *Verella*, and *Physalia* along the wash of the waves. This drift was wholly pelagic, no ground fauna appeared at all; probably such was carried down by the undertow. The drift seemed also southern, such surface forms as *Glaucus* and *Porpita* were remarkable for their absence. The storm had overwhelmed sea fowl; Cadet D. B. Fry found a dead, though fresh, Penguin (*Eudyptula minor*) on the sand, a bird which rarely reaches so low a latitude. Carcasses of *Prion ariel* were numerous.

Cadet R. Kinghorn found a *Spirula spirula* shell with part of the animal attached. A drift spar encased in living barnacles yielded the crab *Nautilograpsus minutus*, Linn., to the scrutiny of Mr. A. R. McCulloch. Amongst the thousands of *Ianthina ianthina*, Linn., we detected a dozen of the rarer *Ianthina exigua*, Lamarck, with their floats complete.

Perhaps the most interesting article fell to my share in the shape of a couple of shells of *Sepia braggi*, Verco,<sup>1</sup> described last year from South Australia, but as yet undetected on the Pacific Coast. Our specimens are only an inch in length. The South Australian type is 60 mm. long, while a specimen from the Heytesbury Coast, Victoria, kindly presented by Mr. G. B. Pritchard, is 62 mm. in length.

It is probable that the Tasmanian record of *Sepia elongata*, D'Orbigny & Ferussac,<sup>2</sup> is based on *Sepia braggi*.

An ichthyological treasure, the second known specimen of *Eupetrichthys angustipes*, Ramsay and Ogilby, rewarded Cadet E. le G. Troughton, who found it stranded on Maroubra Beach the following Saturday.

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<sup>1</sup> Verco—Trans. Roy. Soc. S.A., xxxi., 1907, p. 213, pl. xxvii., figs. 6, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d.

<sup>2</sup> Tate and May—Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., xxvi., 1901, p. 351.