

ON A NEW SPECIES OF CRAWLING MEDUSA
(*CNIDONEMA HASWELLI*) FROM AUSTRALIA.

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(Plates xvii.-xviii.)

INTRODUCTION.

In a recently published paper Gilchrist¹ has described a new genus and species of crawling Medusa, *Cnidonema capense*,² from the Cape of Good Hope. From an examination of both the medusa and the hydroid stage of the Cape species he concludes that the crawling Medusæ of the Southern Hemisphere are generically distinct from the northern forms.

The crawling Medusæ of the Northern Hemisphere belong to the genus *Eleutheria*, which is represented by only two species, *Eleutheria dichotoma*, Quatrefages, and *E. claparedei*, Hartlaub.

The first crawling Medusa to be recorded from the Southern Hemisphere was described by Browne³ in 1902 as *Eleutheria vallentini*, from a single specimen obtained from Stanley Harbour, Falkland Islands.

Later, specimens of a pelagic animal were taken by the French Antarctic Expedition (1903-5) off Wandel Island, and in a short paper "Sur un Animal pélagique de la Région antarctique" Bedot⁴ referred the specimens to a new genus and species, *Wandelia charcoti*.

In 1910 Browne⁵ described another new species, *Eleutheria hodgsoni*, which was obtained by the National Antarctic Expedition from McMurdo Sound. At the same time he recognised that the animal of unknown affinities described by Bedot as *Wandelia charcoti* was also a species of *Eleutheria* and changed the name to *E. charcoti*.

In the following year (1911) Vanhöffen⁶ described and figured the small crawling Medusa which Chun had previously referred to the genus *Eleutheria* in his "Reiserbericht über die Tiefsee-Expedition." These specimens were collected by the German Deep Sea Expedition on the lobes of the thallus of *Macrocystis* in Gazelle Harbour and Observatory Bay, Kerguelen. As the result of his examination of this material from Kerguelen, Vanhöffen concludes that the three southern species,

¹ Gilchrist—Quart. Journ. Micro. Sci. (n.s.), lxiii., 4, 1919, pp. 509-529.

² Not *capensis*; *Cnidonema* is neuter gender.

³ Browne—Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist. (7), ix., 1902, p. 279.

⁴ Bedot—Expéd. Antarct. Française (1903-5), Charcot, 1908, pp. 1-5.

⁵ Browne—National Antarctic Expedition, (1901-1904), Nat. Hist., v., 1910, Cœlenterata, v.-Medusæ, p. 28.

⁶ Vanhöffen—Wissen. Ergebnisse der Deutschen Tiefsee-Exped., "Valdivia," xix., 5, 1911, pp. 193-233.