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Diprosopus Tetrophthalmus in a Bull Calf.

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The above calf was born in a kaffir location near Maritzburg at the beginning of March, 1934. Unlike most monstrosities of this nature, the calf did not die soon after birth, but was destroyed at $3\frac{1}{2}$ months of age on account of a severe panophthalmia of both central eyes. Otherwise it was in excellent health.

During life the calf was unable to stand or even rise, although on several occasions it made ineffectual attempts to do so—moving around in circles on the ground. The failure to rise was not due to weakness, as it could kick vigorously at the age of two months. This would appear to have been due to the heavy weight of the tremendous head as well as possibly lack of function of the centre of equilibrium. Food could be taken through either mouth, the common method of administration being by bottle to which a long teat was fitted. The sense of hearing was fairly well developed since the head would be slightly raised when approached or spoken to from a distance. Bellowing was heard a few times. When licking, the tip of both tongues would appear simultaneously at the corner of each mouth.

After some weeks and owing to the fact that the eyelids of the central eyes did not function, abrasions appeared on the cornea. These were due to the admittance of foreign particles which irritated the eyes. Infection followed, with the result indicated in the first paragraph.

Post-mortem examination showed nothing unusual except the ophthalmia and the features represented in the accompanying figures (figs. 1-4).

EXPLANATION OF FIGURES.



Fig. 1.—Diprosopus tetrophthalmus in a calf.



Fig. 2.—Double tongue of calf.

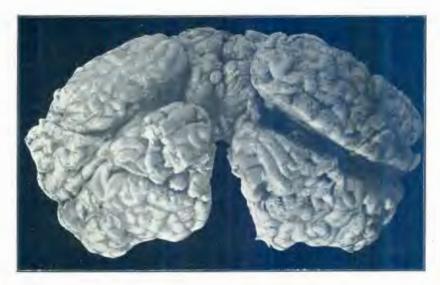


Fig. 3.—Double brain of calf, dorsal view.



Fig. 4.—Double brain of calf, ventral view.