

held together by their connecting ligament. A somewhat peculiar variety of *Echinus sphaera*, O.F.MÜLLER, was met with in one of the Fjords associated with a large form of *E. flemingii*, BALL; and what appears to be a small form of *Cucumaria frondosa*, GUNNER, was very common in shallow water on the tangles.

While we were lying in Thorshavn harbour the Danish gunboat 'Fylla' and the French steam transport 'L'Orient' came in on their way from Iceland. Both of the vessels from the north had come through bad weather, and were glad to run into shelter. During the stay of the three war-ships the little capital was quite gay, and the Governor had abundant opportunity of exercising his genial hospitality. On the 26th of August, as the barometer rose a little and there seemed to be some slight sign of improvement, we left Thorshavn and steamed southward to dredge if possible in the deep channel between Færoe and Shetland; but the same evening wild weather set in again with a strong gale of wind from the north-westward, and the barometer down to 29.08. The hook and screw-jack fastenings of the main rigging went one after another, and we narrowly escaped losing the mast. The gale lasted till the 29th, when there was rather better weather; and after lying-to and drifting to the north-east for nearly three days, we took a sounding in lat. 60° 45' N., long. 4° 49' W. (Station 6). This gave a depth of 510 fathoms and a bottom temperature of 0° C. On the evening of the 29th and on the 30th the weather was sufficiently moderate to allow us to work our dredging gear, and the first trials were of great interest, as it was our first opportunity of making the attempt in so great a depth of