

tion in which the examples are usually found, and from the circumstance that they are not unfrequently associated with species of the genera *Melanocetus* and *Ceratias*—lophioids whose form and structure are inconsistent with a pelagic life—the balance of probability seems greatly in favor of their having been taken on the bottom.

The trawl seemed to have gone over a regular field of a delicate simple Gorgonoid, with a thin wire-like axis slightly twisted spirally, a small tuft of irregular rootlets at the base, and long exsert polyps. The stems, which were from 18 inches to 2 feet in length, were coiled in great hanks round the trawl-beam and entangled in masses in the net; and as they showed a most vivid phosphorescence of a pale lilac color, their immense number suggested a wonderful state of things beneath—animated corn-fields waving gently in the slow tidal current and glowing with a soft, diffused light, scintillating and sparkling on the slightest touch, and now and again breaking into long avenues of vivid light indicating the paths of fishes or other wandering denizens of their enchanted region. The bottom in these later dredgings—anywhere, in fact, along the coast of Portugal at depths beyond 500 fathoms—consisted of the now well-known globigerina ooze; that is to say, it was a grayish calcareous paste, soft on the surface, becoming firmer below, and made up in a great degree of the shells of foraminifera—chiefly of the genera *Globigerina* and *Orbulina*—entire, or more or less broken up and disintegrated.

Along with the foraminiferous shells, some other shells of much larger size enter in varying proportions into the composition of the ooze, or perhaps may be rather said to be mixed with it. These are principally shells of Pteropods, with a few of those of Heteropods, and of pelagic Gasteropods. The last of these groups, the GASTEROPODA, are well known. They include the great mass of the mollusca of the present time; for example, the whelk, the periwinkle, and the garden snail. Their