

edly add enormously to zoological knowledge. The objects of the present expedition do not, of course, include a detailed investigation of this kind, which must be done quietly in a small steamer by some one on the spot, and will require the patient work of several years. Even the few hauls of the dredge which we had it in our power to make brought to light a number of new and highly interesting animal forms representing nearly all the invertebrate groups. A thorough investigation of the belt must yield a wonderful harvest.

In dredging on the 15th, we got several sponges belonging to the hexactinellidæ, very closely allied to those which we had previously met with in moderately deep water off the coast of Portugal, showing that the distribution of this remarkable order in deep water is very wide. Several stony corals occurred; but of all these, with the exception of a species of *Stylaster*, which was very abundant at this station, we got better examples on a subsequent occasion. The *Stylaster* agrees very closely with the description and figure given by Pourtales of *S. complanatus*. The only marked difference is, that the primary and secondary septa do not unite to the same extent as shown in Count Pourtales's figure. The genus *Stylaster* is recent and widely distributed. One or two very elegant alcyonarian zoophytes, as yet undetermined, adhered to the tangles. The ECHINODERMATA were represented by the variety *abyssicola* of *Cidaris hystrix*; several fine star-fishes, among them a fine *Archaster*, a species of *Luidia*, and *Astrogonium longimanum*, a species described by Oerstedt from a specimen in the Hamburg Museum from an unknown locality; and some large ophiurids, including two species of *Ophiomusium*, and some undescribed forms.

In this dredging two very interesting crustaceans occurred, both belonging to the macrurous decapoda, and both participating in a singular deficiency—the total absence of eyes. One of these has been referred to the genus *Willemoesia*, GROTE.