

hastening to join the dodo and the gair-fowl among the creatures of bygone times.

We now steered somewhat to the north of west, and early on the 1st of September sounded in lat. $60^{\circ} 17'$, long. $2^{\circ} 53'$, at a depth of 103 fathoms, and a bottom temperature of $9^{\circ} 2$ C. We were still in the shallow water, and had not touched the arctic stream. All day we slipped over the edge of the plateau, dredging chiefly well-known Shetland forms, and the temperature falling slightly, reaching in the afternoon at a depth of 203 fathoms, $8^{\circ} 7$ C. (Station 74). The next sounding, about ten miles farther north, gave us the stratum of intermixture, a temperature of $5^{\circ} 5$ C. at a depth of 250 fathoms. We ran about thirty miles in the night, and early next morning dredged in the frigid water again in lat. $60^{\circ} 36'$ N., long. $3^{\circ} 58'$ N., at a depth of 344 fathoms, with a bottom temperature of $-1^{\circ} 1$ C., the temperature at the surface being $10^{\circ} 1$ C. Five-and-twenty miles to the westward, we sounded again at noon of the same day at 560 fathoms, with $-1^{\circ} 2$ C.

In these two or three last cold dredgings the character of the bottom was much the same—gravel of the older rocks, and clay. The preponderance of echinoderms and sponges was again remarkable, and the paucity of mollusca, though in this region we took a single specimen of a mollusk which seemed to be greatly out of its latitude. This was a pretty little brachiopod, *Platydiaan omioides*, SACCHI (*Morrisia*, DAVIDSON), hitherto found only in the Mediterranean. The size of this specimen greatly exceeded that of Mediterranean examples of the same species a singular circumstance which leads