

with his yacht 'Norna,' and with the aid of Mr. Saville Kent, has thrown a good deal of additional light upon the zoology of the 'warm area' off the coast of Portugal.

We left Stornoway on the 13th of September, and in the afternoon dredged for a few hours in Loch Torridon without much result. Late in the evening, steaming down Raasay Sound, we came upon the luminous forest of *Pavonaria* to which I have already referred. At noon, on the 14th, we were abreast of the Island of Mull, and on the 15th we were once more moored in the Abercorn Basin, Belfast, where we took leave of the 'Porcupine' and our highly-valued friends her captain and officers; in the hope of meeting them again shortly, and thoroughly satisfied with the success of our summer's work.

On the 24th of March, 1870, a letter was read at the council meeting of the Royal Society from Dr. Carpenter, addressed to the President, suggesting that an exploration of the deep sea, such as was carried out during 1868 and 1869 in the regions to the north and west of the British Islands, should now be extended to the south of Europe and the Mediterranean, and that the council of the Royal Society should recommend such an undertaking to the favourable consideration of the Admiralty, with a view to obtain the assistance of Her Majesty's Government, as on the previous occasions. The official correspondence, with reference to the expedition of the summer of 1870, is given in Appendix A to the present chapter.

It was intended, as on the previous occasion, to divide this year's expedition into cruises; and again Mr. Gwyn Jeffreys undertook the scientific direction