

is the reverse. The smooth heavy shells are rarely brought up, while frequently the tangles loaded with the spiny spheres of *Cidaris*, great white-bearded *Holtenia*, glistening coils of *Hyalonema*, relieved by the crimson stars of *Astropecten* and *Brisinga*, present as remarkable an appearance as can well be imagined. On one occasion, to which I have already referred, I am sure not fewer than 20,000 examples of *Echinus norvegicus* came up on the tangles at one haul. They were warped through and through the hempen fibres, and actually filled the tangles so that we could not get them out, and they hung for days round the bulwarks like nets of pickling onions in a greengrocer's shop. The use of the tangles, which seem so singularly well adapted to their capture, gives therefore a totally unfair advantage to the radiate groups and the sponges, and this must always be taken into account in estimating their proportion in the fauna of a particular area.

The tangles certainly make a sad mess of the specimens; and the first feeling is one of woe, as we undertake the almost hopeless task of clipping out with a pair of short nail-scissors the mangled remains of sea-pens, the legs of rare crabs, and the dismembered disks and separated arms of delicate crinoids and ophiurids. We must console ourselves with the comparatively few things which come up entire, sticking to the outer fibres; and with the reflection that had we not used this somewhat ruthless means of capture the mutilated specimens would have remained unknown to us at the bottom of the sea.

The dredge comes up variously freighted according to the locality. Usually, if dexterously managed,