

The water in the slip water-bottle was muddy. There was a fresh breeze in the evening, which, however, fell off during the night, and we did not make so much way as we expected.

On the forenoon of the 14th we were still thirty-five miles from land, and we sounded in 1420 fathoms. The bottom had altered greatly in character; it now consisted chiefly of calcareous foraminifera of many species, mixed with a considerable proportion of the broken spicules of siliceous sponges. The bottom temperature registered was 3° C. The water-bottle was accidentally broken in taking in, so that that observation was lost. A series of temperature soundings were taken with the usual intervals:

Surface.....	24°·5 C.	800 fathoms.....	—
100 fathoms.....	20 ·6	900 “	4°·0 C.
200 “	16 ·2	1000 “	3 ·5
300 “	—	1100 “	3 ·3
400 “	8 ·7	1200 “	3 ·1
500 “	6 ·6	1300 “	3 ·0
600 “	5 ·8	1420 “ bottom.....	3 ·0
700 “	4 ·8		

As we were now within sight of land, and all our results were evidently modified by its immediate proximity, we regarded our first deep-sea section as completed.

It will be seen from the foregoing account, with the accompanying diagrams, that we ran a continuous section across nearly the widest part of the North Atlantic; and that along this line we established twenty-two observing stations, at distances varying a little, according to circumstances, but averaging 120 miles apart. At each of these stations one sounding at least was taken; and, except in one single instance, where the weights of the “Hydra” sounding-instrument failed to disengage, an ample specimen of the bottom was brought up. The samples of the bottom were carefully labeled and preserved. In some cases one, and in many cases two, Miller-Casella thermometers registered the bottom temperature. A specimen of