

divided into two. This would indicate an approach to such forms as *Nebalia*, which has nine abdominal segments, or, at all events, a tendency to a multiplication of segments which, if really existing, would scarcely allow the association of the genus with the true schizopods.

The weather was remarkably fine. During the day the island of Flores was visible like a cloud on the horizon about fifty miles to the northward. As our sounding was comparatively shallow, our position was probably on a southern extension of the rise which culminates northward in Flores and Corvo. One of the most remarkable differences between the Açores and Bermudas is that, while Bermudas springs up, an isolated peak, from a great depth, the Açores seem to be simply the highest points of a great plateau-like elevation, which extends for upward of a thousand miles from west to east, and appears to be continuous with a belt of shallow water stretching to Iceland in the north, and connected probably with the "Dolphin Rise" to the southward—a plateau which in fact divides the North Atlantic longitudinally into two great valleys, an eastern and a western. The three previous soundings, the first 330 miles from Fayal, had already shown that we were passing over the gradual ascent; and this dredging, although not very fruitful in results, gave indications, by the presence of some comparatively shallow-water northern species, of a northern extension of its conditions.

Although the two remote little archipelagoes out in the Atlantic have many things in common, the first impression of the Açores is singularly different from that of Bermudas. Long before the white cottages, straggling in broken lines almost round the islands on the top of the sea-cliff, or grouped in villages round their little churches—white, quaintly edged with black, like mourning envelopes—in the mouths of richly wooded ravines, have become visible, the eye has been dwelling with pleasure on the bold outline of the land, running up everywhere