

9 A.M. a sounding, trawling, and temperatures were taken in 1050 fathoms, a strong northerly set being experienced the whole time. The temperature of the water decreased regularly from the surface to the bottom, or nearly to the bottom, showing that the China Sea was open to the influence of the Pacific to a depth of between 900 and 1000 fathoms (see Sheet 31 and Diagram 14). At 4 P.M. the trawl was hove up, and at 5 P.M. sail was made to a northeast breeze, which gradually freshened as the land disappeared.

The deposit at 1050 fathoms was a bluish coloured mud containing 20 per cent. of carbonate of lime, which was chiefly composed of the shells of pelagic organisms.

The trawl brought up several pieces of pumice and some leaves and palm fruits, to which a *Chiton*, a *Patella*, and a few worm tubes were attached. There were also two species of Macruridæ and many Echinoderms, among others *Cystechinus clypeatus*, A. Ag.; *Phormosoma luculentum*, A. Ag.; *Phormosoma bursarium*, A. Ag.; *Podocidaris prionigera*, A. Ag.; *Ophioglypha radiata*, Lyman; *Ophiomitra plicata*, Lyman; and many others.

The 14th and 15th were cloudy days, with a fresh northeast monsoon and strong southwesterly current; on the 15th the velocity of the current was a little over 2 miles per hour.

On the 16th, at 7 A.M., the land was observed ahead; at 8 A.M. the northeast head of Lema Island bore N. 2° W., Pountin Island N. 25° W., Peaked Rock N. 62° W., showing a current of 26 miles S. 37° W. since noon on the previous day. At 11 A.M. the ship passed through the Taitami Channel, and steering through the Lamma and Sulphur Channels, anchored at Hong Kong at 2.15 P.M.

There is one point in connection with the navigation of China waters that it may be as well to mention here, namely, that the numerous junks met with off the principal ports carry no lights, but on the approach of vessels burn a flare up light from the stern. They generally sail in couples, and are nearly all rigged in the same way, carrying two sails, the smaller one forward. These facts are, of course, well known to all seamen who traverse the China Sea, but may nevertheless be useful to the navigator who first makes his landfall on the China coast during the night.

In the surface nets on the 13th there were enormous numbers of Foraminifera and Radiolaria, the most abundant hauls of the former being procured when the net was sent down to 100 fathoms beneath the surface. In the same nets there were several fine specimens of *Alciopæ*, several new forms of which were obtained by the Expedition as stated in the following notes by Professor M'Intosh, F.R.S., whose Report on the Annelida collected by the Naturalists during the cruise is now being printed:—

*The Annelida.*—"The collection of Annelids procured by the Challenger is both extensive and valuable, and though many are fragmentary, it is to be recollected that the bristles and other parts form very reliable features in diagnosis. The total number of species is over three hundred, and they include representatives of almost every family.