

S. by W. from Observation Islet is another small islet, and on the mainland between them there are a few huts on the beach. At the head of Humboldt Bay is a sharp peak just inside the coast line, from whence to Point Bonpland the coast is low. Point Bonpland is the western extremity of a ridge of hills, about 4 miles long and from 800 to 1000 feet high, which stretches from that point towards Mount Bougainville, ending with a sharp fall over Point Bonpland, off which there are two small islets. Mount Bougainville is wrongly placed on the chart; it bears S. 68° E. (true) 17.5 miles from Point Caillié, and is a sloping mountain 4500 feet above the level of the sea. The Cyclops Mountains consist of a long range with one peak considerably higher than the others, the position and height of which could not be determined.

The deposit at 37 fathoms in Humboldt Bay was a greenish mud, containing a few Pteropod and Foraminifera shells. The surface organisms did not indicate the presence of any large body of river water, being rather pelagic than estuarine.

HUMBOLDT BAY TO THE ADMIRALTY ISLANDS.

The first two days after leaving Humboldt Bay for the Admiralty Islands, light westerly winds and fine weather were experienced, after which the wind became variable, with squalls, and approaching the Admiralty Islands there was almost continuous rain. Matty Island, the Schouten group, and the Hermit Islands were sighted on the passage, and one sounding of 1070 fathoms was obtained in lat. $2^{\circ} 33'$ S., long. $144^{\circ} 4'$ E.; a trawling and temperatures (see Sheet 31) were also obtained in this position. The deposit was a blue mud with a reddish surface layer, and contained 17 per cent. of carbonate of lime. The trawl brought up a large quantity of mud, large pieces of pumice, fragments of wood and fruits, and nearly two hundred specimens of deep-sea animals. The net was covered with a branching Rhizopod.

The Alcyonaria.—The Pennatulida have been noticed on page 49. The other Alcyonarian collections were sent to Professor E. Perceval Wright, who is engaged in preparing a Report on them; he writes as follows:—"The species of the suborder Alcyonacea, being for the most part inhabitants of shallow water, were not well represented in the collections. Still some interesting species of the genera *Xenia*, *Clavularia*, and *Nephthya* occur, and a few forms of the genus *Spogcodes* were dredged in depths of from 100 to 150 fathoms. A species of *Sarcophyton* found on the reefs off the shores of the Admiralty Islands supplied Professor Moseley¹ with the material for an important memoir on the structure of this form, the heteromorphism of which had already been discovered by Professor Kölliker. Only a few fragments of *Tubipora musica* were collected, and no simple non-colonial forms.

¹ On the Structure of Sarcophyton, *Phil. Trans.*, part i. p. 109, 1876.