

was constantly caught during our voyage in the towing-net in the open ocean. The Atlantic species differs from the Pacific one. The insect is one of the Bug family, with a small round wingless body and long legs, and is coloured black. It is closely allied to the long-legged insects (*Gerrys*) which are so commonly to be seen resting on the surface of ponds and ditches in England, moving along by a series of jerks, and casting curious-looking shadows on the bottoms of shallows when the sun is overhead. The *Halobates* lives entirely at sea, and carries its eggs about attached to its body.

Most fish live about the coasts, and comparatively few are met with far away from land, but there are regular pelagic fish. There are pelagic Mollusca of all kinds, including perfectly transparent Cuttle-fish, transparent pelagic Crustaceans, transparent pelagic Annelids, and pelagic Planarian worms.

There are even pelagic Sea Anemones (*Nautactis* and its allies) which have their bases, by means of which shore-inhabiting Sea Anemones cling to the rocks, so modified as to form chambers containing air, and thus acting as floats. Many pelagic animals form highly complex colonies, which float about in the surface water, combined in one mass. Such are Chain-Salpæ and *Pyrosoma*. In some of these compound organisms, such as the *Siphonophora*, there is a complex combination of variously modified zooids, with a division of labour amongst the members composing the colony, just as amongst the closely allied *Stylasteridæ*. The *Siphonophora* like the *Stylasteridæ* are *Hydrozoa*, but the compound organisms they form are soft, hyaline, and free-swimming, whilst the stocks formed by the *Stylasteridæ* are stony, hard, opaque, and firmly rooted to the sea bottom.

I have described a land Nemertine worm,\* which exists in Bermuda. Nemertines, however, though like Planarians normally shore-inhabiting animals, have adapted themselves not only to terrestrial, but also to pelagic existence. One of the most remarkable animals discovered by the "Challenger" Expedition is a pelagic Nemertine which I have called *Pelagonemertes Rollestoni*, after my friend Prof. Rolleston of Oxford.

The body of the animal is leaf-shaped and gelatinous, and perfectly transparent, with the exception of the digestive tract, which is branched as in Planarians,† and is of a burnt-sienna

\* See p. 23.

† Prof. Giard has lately described a gigantic Nemertine (*Avenardia Priei*) a yard and a half in length, which has a similarly ramified intestine, otherwise this arrangement does not occur amongst Nemertines. Ann. and Mag. Nat. Hist., Sept. 1878.