

metres, and a good deal of harm was also done to the others. All the same we managed to get some samples of interesting deep-sea forms, though such catches were of a more or less fortuitous nature.

Off Lisbon the sea became calm, and we took hydrographical observations at Station 17, obtaining water-samples from many depths. Here,

out on the edge of the continental slope, and in the Spanish Bay, the weather was beautifully warm, and the sun shone brightly. We now met with some extremely interesting forms of animal life. Numerous dolphins swam round our bows, and when standing in the fore part of the ship we saw thousands of small pelagic crabs (*Polybius*; see Fig. 46), sometimes as many as fifty of them in three minutes. We also sighted a turtle.



FIG. 44.—BARGAINING.

While steaming along Gran studied the plankton filtered from water obtained by a pump, and found in every sample more than forty species of diatoms and peridini, whereas to the west of Ireland we had come across a diatom-plankton, rich in individuals but very poor in species, consisting of the ordinary North European coast diatoms. This showed that we had now reached a southern and warmer marine region, with a totally

Gran's investigations on the plankton.