

of valley, which is bounded on the west by the Rockall bank, and on the east by the coast bank of Scotland. Farther north this valley shallows towards the extensive ridge that stretches from Iceland past the Faroe Islands to Shetland, and separates the Atlantic Ocean from the Norwegian Sea at all depths beyond 400 to 500 metres. The part of this ridge between the Faroe Islands and Shetland is known as the Wyville Thomson Ridge, which has frequently been examined, first by British, afterwards by Danish, naturalists; in fact, it may be regarded as a classical field for oceanic research (see Chapter I.). The



FIG. 105.—ROCKALL.

"Michael Sars" had made investigations there previously, both on the Atlantic side south of the ridge and in the Norwegian Sea to the north of it. In Fig. 104 our former research-stations are marked with a cross.

It was desirable, however, to re-investigate this area, employing there the same methods of working as we had adopted in the North Atlantic, and we felt it necessary to have a section south of the Wyville Thomson Ridge and another one to the north of it. The valley between Britain on the one side and Rockall and the Faroes on the other is really the only connection between the two deep basins, for it is only through