

differing from it in the number of muscle segments; some of them were only 4.2 cm. long. There were further some remarkable deep-sea fish, including a curious *Ceratias* (Fig. 59), and the little rare cuttle-fish, *Spirula* (Fig. 60), which is of such interest to zoologists.

During the night some flying-fish (Fig. 61) with mature eggs came on board, and on our way back to Gran Canaria we saw a quantity of flying-fish near the island. We anchored once more at Porta de la Luz on Tuesday, 24th May.

From the
Canaries to
the Azores.

From Plymouth to the west coast of Africa we had been chiefly cruising over the coast banks and continental slopes.

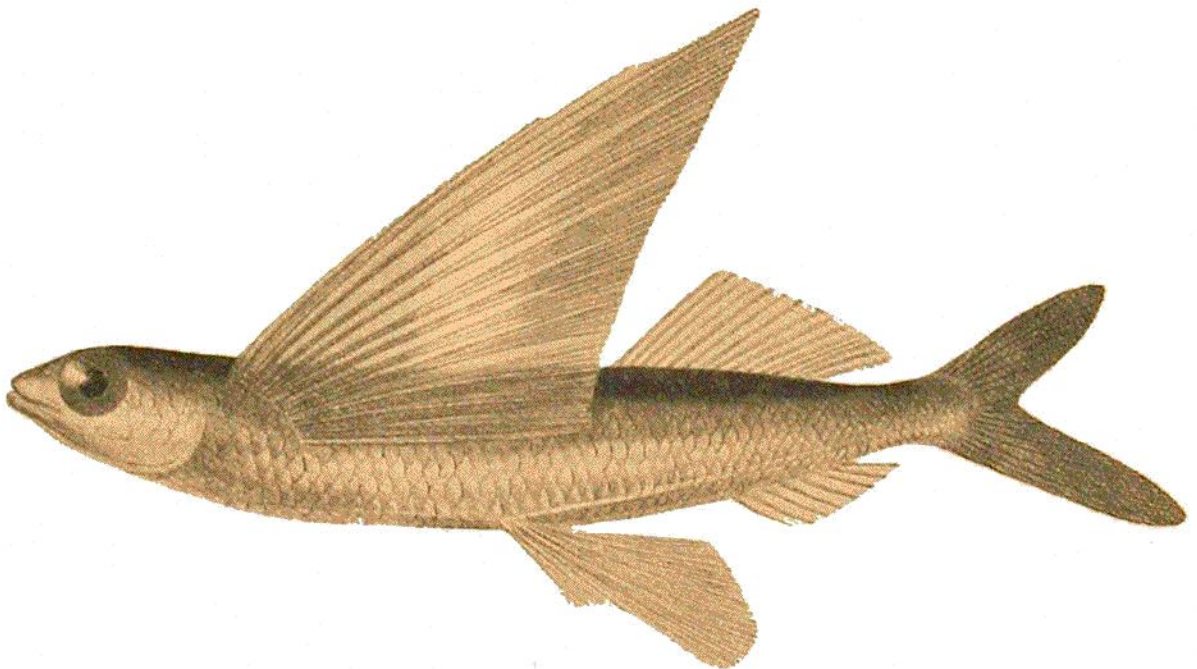


FIG. 61.—FLYING-FISH (*Exocoetus spilopus*, Val.). Nat. size, 32 cm.

Now we were to begin a voyage across the Atlantic from the Canary Islands to the Azores and thence to Newfoundland. Our task henceforth was therefore to investigate a deep ocean, the average depth of which may roughly be put at 5000 metres. Everything accordingly had to be so arranged that we could lower our instruments and appliances to profound depths.

The experiences of previous expeditions had made it clear that the larger organisms, at any rate, are sparsely scattered over the vast ocean depths. We therefore prepared ourselves for long pelagic hauls of a day's or a night's duration, during the course of which it would be necessary to employ simultaneously as many appliances as we could at different depths, partly to