

and strangers to the pelagic fauna. The Challenger collection contains several instances of such irregular occurrences, viz., *Hemerocoetes*, *Gobius*, *Fundulus*, *Muræna*.

Thus, the pelagic fauna comprises a very varied assemblage of forms : not only fishes excelling above all others in the power of swimming with regard to rapidity as well as endurance of motion, but also species in which the power of locomotion is almost reduced to the faculty of floating on the surface, without resistance, at the mercy of wind and current, or of retaining their hold on other floating substances, like sea weed, logs of wood, &c. It comprises fishes which can raise themselves out of the water in short flights, and others which are provided with a special apparatus to attach themselves to a rapid swimmer, thus partaking of all the advantages derived from his power of locomotion. Many accompany ships, large fishes, Medusæ, any floating object, partly as commensals, partly for protection. All are carnivorous. They seem to descend during very stormy weather to a depth to which the violence of the surface agitation does not reach. And certainly all nocturnal forms pass the day at some depth, coming to the surface during the night only ; they are provided with luminous organs like many bathybial forms, and, indeed, form a transition to the deep-sea fauna.