

species were observed, and many specimens were nearly a foot in diameter.

A few days afterwards I scooped up another Cœlenterate, very different from the Medusa, but equally as beautiful. This was a species of Ctenophore.* It was of a transparent white colour, with a red internal part, and bright yellow spots underneath.

The beautiful, but grotesque looking, Puffin or Sea Parrot (*Luna cirrata*, Pall), is frequently seen in Behring Sea. With its brilliant colours it suggests the ludicrous among birds, almost as much as the mandrill does among mammals. The head is white with yellow tufts, the bill green and red, the legs red, and the general colour of the body black.

While on deck one night, when all was quiet, and it was calm, mild, and still on the sea, I heard the cry of a Murre—never heard by me before. It was a simple and single "mur," each time, coming from the distance, and at once revealed why the bird had been so named. The Murres (*Uria*) of which there are a number of species inhabiting both the Atlantic and Pacific are dark coloured above and white below, and are frequently to be seen in the Behring Sea, either on the wing or resting on the surface of the water. I saw one one day when hundreds of miles from land, on the surface of the waves with her brood, which consisted of a single young one; for the Murre lays only one egg at a time. Countless thousands, however, of these birds congregate together among the rocks during the breeding time, so that Murres' eggs have considerable commercial value. In large collections of the eggs the most varied ground colours and markings are displayed: the ground colours are different shades of white, different shades of green, bluish, grayish, earthy: the markings are spots, blotches, and zigzag lines of brown, black, or lilac: occasionally eggs are devoid of markings.

At times I have seen great numbers of sea-birds, when out in a boat on the open sea. On one such occasion hundreds of

*The Cœlenterata are divisible into the Hydrozoa and the Actinozoa—the Medusæ belong to the former, and the Ctenophora, along with Corals, Anemones, &c., to the latter.