

On reaching the basin at the foot of King street, I noticed the shores literally strewn with the dead bodies of these calamaries or sea-arrows, as they are sometimes called. I was informed by sailors on the wharf that between fifty and sixty barrels had been gathered that morning, between tides, by Norwegian sailors. They are considered good eating by many, although not used to any extent in this direction in Canada. Captain Ross, an old seaman and resident of St. John, who visited the harbour that day, informed me that "squid" is extremely rare in St. John harbour.

Mr. Robert Chalmers, of the Geological Survey of Canada, informs me that in 1886 a school of squids visited the passage between Miscou and Shippegan Island, said to be chased by cod. Three specimens of this species from St. John Harbour were secured by the writer and preserved in alcohol. They are now in the National Museum, Ottawa.

There were many persons in St. John who held the view that the squid seen in the harbour that day had been chased by some whale.—H. M. A.

## 2. BRITISH AMERICAN ECHINODERMS.

During the voyage of H. M. S. Challenger in the North Atlantic, a number of echinoderms were obtained in the dredging which may help to throw light upon the doubtful form obtained by the writer in one of the calcareous nodules from the Pleistocene clays of Bessersers,\* near Ottawa, and recently noticed by Sir Wm. Dawson in the December issue of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST.

In the Challenger report on the Echinodermata by Alex. Agassiz, part 9, 1881, on page 201, *Schisaster fragilis* is recorded from "off the coast of Nova Scotia," and on page 221 the same species is also recorded from the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

*Strongylocentrotus Drobachiensis* is recorded on page 211 from the east coast of America, and is found most abundantly throughout the shallows of the shores of the Maritime Provinces.

*Echinus acutus*, Lamarck, was obtained off "Halifax" as recorded on page 17, whilst *Echinus elegans*, Dub. & Kov., also occurs there.

*Echinarachnius parma*, Gray, was collected off the coast of Labrador.

*Echinarachnius parma*, Gray, and *Strongylocentrotus Franciscanus*, A. Ag., on pages 216 and 212 respectively of the same Challenger report, from the Pacific waters of the St. George's Bank, Vancouver Island.—H. M. A.

\* "Note on an Echinoderm, etc." OTTAWA NATURALIST, Vol. 13, No. 9, pp. 201—203. December, 1899.