

brought within a comparatively short distance of the north-east coast of America, wander away right and left, and many strike the shores and are captured, to afford wonder to those who are unaccustomed to their singular forms. Thus it is that on the coast of Nova Scotia are found almost every summer, examples of West Indian *Balistes*, *Fistularia*, *Hemiramphus*, *Exocætus*, etc., also the pelagic mollusc commonly known as the 'sea snail' (*Physalia pelagica*); while many large seeds of West Indian plants such as *Entada scandens*, *Mucuna urens* and others chiefly belonging to the family *Leguminosæ*, are picked up at Sable Island, which lies eighty or more miles off the Nova Scotian coast. Another object which will attract attention is the flying fish, which is generally observed darting from the water under the steamer's bows when she comes within 150 miles of the islands. It is a curious fish, having elongated pectoral fins, which, when expanded, are of sufficient extent to enable the fish to rest upon the air during its course, which is always a straight one, and rarely prolonged to a greater distance than fifty or sixty yards, often much less. Inaccurate observers have declared that the fins in question are used just like the wings of a bird, jerking up and down, and that the fish can vary its course to the right or left as it wills. This is not the case, for its fins merely act as spread surfaces to enable the fish to balance itself in the air; as long as the fins remain moist, and immediately they are dry, it falls into its element again to renew