

habits and propensities are very similar, are rats and land-crabs; both doing a great deal of damage in the gardens by destroying the roots of vegetables and fruit-trees. The rats kept out of the way during the day, but we often saw the crabs; and we were told to knock them on the head (or whatever answers that purpose) whenever we fell in with them.

I am almost disappointed that we did not see the "rollers," although, for many reasons, their occurring just at that time would have been very inconvenient. It must be a wonderful phenomenon, an enormously heavy swell arising in a perfectly calm sea, without any apparent cause, and breaking against the leeward coast of the island with almost irresistible fury. There was a slight threatening of something of the kind as we embarked with more than usual difficulty at Tartar Stairs on the 2d of April, and bid farewell to Captain East and his model colony, thinking how comparatively easy it was to make a little corner of the world tidy and comfortable and in every way respectable—if it were under discipline, and were not expected to be self-supporting.

At day-break on the 3d we steamed out of Clarence Bay, and swung ship for errors of the compasses. In the afternoon we put over the dredge with fair result. The assemblage of animal forms was very much like that off Tristan d'Acunha, with the addition of a few more tropical species, such as *Stylaster erubescens* and a species of *Hemi-euryale*. In the evening we set sail, and proceeded toward our next place of call, San Iago, in the Cape Verde group.

On the 4th we sounded in 1260 fathoms, with a bottom of globigerina ooze, and a bottom temperature of 2°·1 C.; and on the 6th, in 2350 fathoms. The sounding-tube brought up a few globigerina shells and grains of manganese; the bottom temperature was 0°·4 C. The dredge was put over, but, unfortunately, it came up with the tangles foul and over the mouth. The number of animals was, consequently, small; but