

species themselves. Our investigations at different seasons, both in coastal waters and in the North Atlantic, have shown us that the flora of each locality is constantly changing. One species succeeds another as month follows month, and different societies predominate in the same locality at different seasons.

Flora of west
coast of
Norway.

Along the west coast of Norway, for instance, we find a flora during the winter, from December to February, scanty in numbers, but consisting of many species, and mainly composed of true Atlantic forms (Styli-plankton), which reach their northernmost limits in the dark months of the year. About March or April the temperature attains its minimum, and great quantities

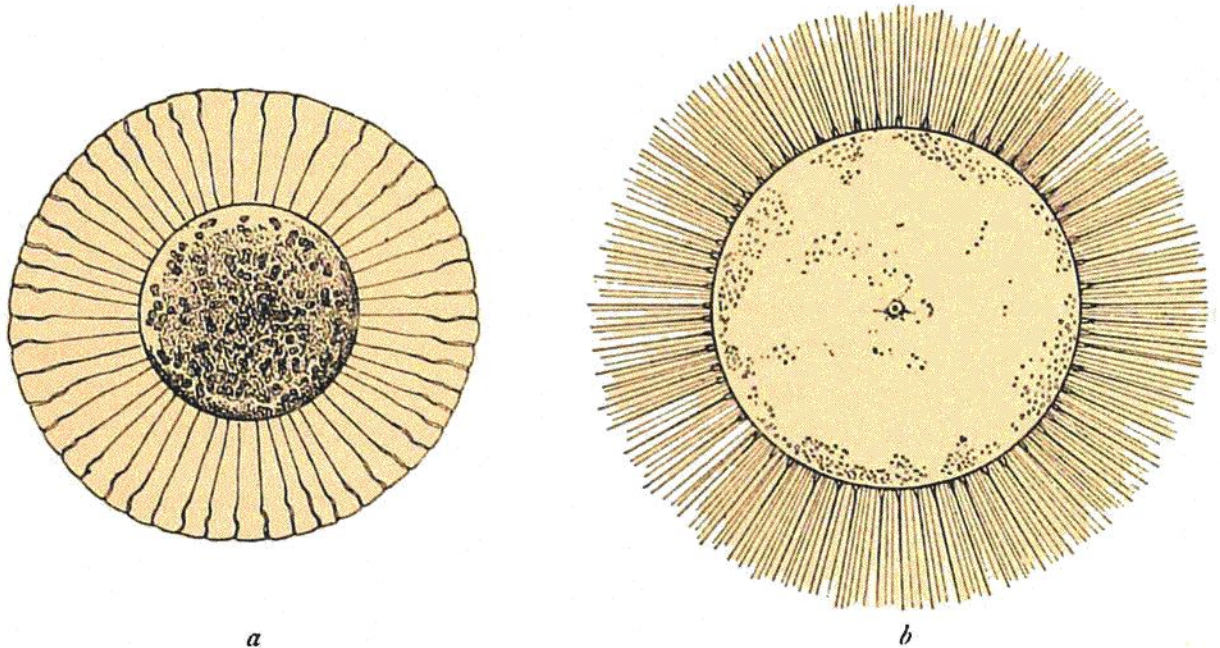


FIG. 245.
a, *Planktoniella sol*, and *b*, *Gossleriella tropica*, from the Atlantic. (Schütt.)

of diatoms are then produced, which are mainly arctic. Sometimes these are almost entirely neritic, and sometimes there is a considerable addition of oceanic species. As often as not it is the species of *Thalassiosira* and *Coscinodiscus* which first appear, and then comes *Chaetoceras*, *C. debile* being usually the form found on the west coast, *C. constrictum* preferring the Skagerrack. In May the predominant form is generally *Leptocylindrus danicus*. We next get a period in June when the prevailing forms are oceanic, *Ceratium longipes* at that time attaining its maximum development and characterising the flora. In August the warmth-loving peridineaë begin to be more and more numerous, *Ceratium fusus*, *C. furca*, and *C. tripos* being then much in evidence, and continuing to increase until October. Finally, in November we get a comparatively