

Norwegian Sea. Certainly, many species are common to both, but there are far more peculiar species, the difference becoming more pronounced the farther south we go. The British Isles and the English Channel, the shallow-water fauna of which has been thoroughly studied, may be taken as the boundary where the northern and southern forms meet, both categories having reached their respective southern and northern limits of distribution. Along the British coasts and the Channel we get, accordingly, a kind of coalition territory, which has often been considered a separate faunal "province," and has actually been termed Lusitanian, though in my opinion without sufficient justification. The shallow-water faunas of Iceland and the Faroe Islands are so little known that it is impossible to say whether they are coalition territories or not. We must remember that it is much more difficult for shallow-water forms to find access to insulated areas like these, cut off as they are by profound depths and special conditions of temperature, than to the British coasts.

It is now admitted that faunal resemblances and dissimilarities between different marine areas are chiefly due to the physical conditions of the sea-water, but we must not regard them as the sole factors that regulate distribution. Two marine areas may have similar physical conditions and yet differ greatly faunistically. The Northern Pacific and Northern Atlantic have in many cases similar hydrographical conditions, but their faunas are on the whole quite distinct. There are other factors at work, and *isolation* probably does more than anything else to cause faunal differences. Two areas may be isolated from each other owing to the topographical character of the bottom, or because the physical properties of the water prevent any faunal connection, and consequently their faunas develop in different directions. *Temperature* is another of the chief physical conditions affecting distribution, and this explains why the British coasts, the Mediterranean, the Azores, and the Canary Islands, not to mention tropical coastal areas, shelter many forms which do not occur in the Norwegian Sea, although there do not seem to be any obstacles of a topographical character in the long connected coast of western and northern Europe.

We often see the limit of the arctic fauna in the Norwegian Sea put at about lat. 67° N., it being apparently forgotten that, owing to the hydrographical conditions, a large arctic area (part of the arctic-abyssal) extends as far south as lat. 60° N.,