

of the abyssal fauna may be found to have a very wide, perhaps even a universal, distribution.

It is unfortunate that in the deepest haul of all—3150 fathoms—no living thing was brought up higher in the scale than a foraminifer; but this I attributed at the time to the nature of the bottom; and this opinion was afterward borne out by the abundance, at scarcely a less depth, and on a bottom differing only in being somewhat less uniform, and containing sand-grains and a few shells of foraminifera, of tube-building annelids of a very common shallow-water type. The crustacea do not appear to suffer from the peculiarity of the circumstances under which they live, either in development or in color. The singular fact of the suppression of the eyes in certain cases has already been referred to. The echinoderms and sponges, which enter so largely into the fauna of the zone ending at 1000 fathoms, are not abundant at extreme depths.