

years and work, and this last task, on which he had entered with keen interest, must be finished by other hands.

It will be seen that the bottom temperature of the cold area, at 500 fathoms, does not differ by more than two or three degrees from that of the warm area, at depths beyond 1,500 fathoms. It seems, in fact, as Dr. Carpenter has well pointed out, as if all the extreme climatal conditions which, in the deep water of the Atlantic are extended over a vertical distance of two or three miles, are here compressed, without greatly altering their proportions, into the compass of half a mile. We have the same surface super-heating and rapid fall for the first short distance; the same hump on the curves, indicating the presence of a layer of water heated by some other cause than direct solar radiation; the same rapid fall through a 'stratum of intermixture;' and, finally, the same long excessively slow depression through a deep bottom bed of cold water nearly at a uniform temperature.

As might be anticipated, if the view be correct that arctic conditions are in a broad sense continuous throughout the abyssal regions of the sea, a large number of the inhabitants of the 'cold area' are common to the deep water off Rockall and as far south as the coast of Portugal; but the fauna of the Færoe channel includes besides these generally distributed forms, an assemblage of species—for example the large crustaceans and arachnida and some of the star-fishes—which are not only generally characteristic of frigid conditions, but specially of that part of the arctic province represented by the seas of Spitzbergen,