

of the existing Fauna and Flora of the British Isles," may be said to mark an era in the progress of human thought.

After enumerating various additions to our knowledge of the distribution of marine invertebrata within the British area which were still to be desired, Forbes concludes his report with the following sentence: "And lastly, though I fear the consummation, however devoutly wished for, is not likely soon to be effected, a series of dredgings between the Zetland and the Færoe Isles, where the greatest depth is under 700 fathoms, would throw more light on the natural history of the North Atlantic and on marine zoology generally than any investigation that has yet been undertaken."

To Forbes's general report succeeded many reports from the different sections into which from year to year the committee divided itself. Among these I may mention particularly the very excellent work done by the Belfast dredging committee, communicated to several meetings of the Association by the late Mr. George C. Hyndman; the reports of the Dublin committee by the late Professor Kinahan and Professor E. Perceval Wright; the important lists of the fauna of the East Coast of England reported on behalf of the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and of the Tyne-side Naturalists' Field Club, by Mr. Henry T. Mennell and Mr. G. S. Brady; and lastly the invaluable reports on the marine fauna of the Hebrides and Shetland, compiled at an extraordinary expense of labour, discomfort, and privation—doubtless with an immediate guerdon of infinite enjoyment