

upon them. The most noticeable of these is medusa's head (*Gorgonocephalus linckii*, see Fig. 345), a brittle-star with extremely branching arms that lives upon the larger gorgonians and sea-trees. A crustacean, *Galathodes tridentatus*, appears also to be intimately connected with the corals, and large quantities are occasionally found upon them. As for the remaining higher forms of crustaceans the fauna consists chiefly

of prawns, though they are different from the ones in the littoral zone,<sup>1</sup> but other groups are not entirely wanting.<sup>2</sup>

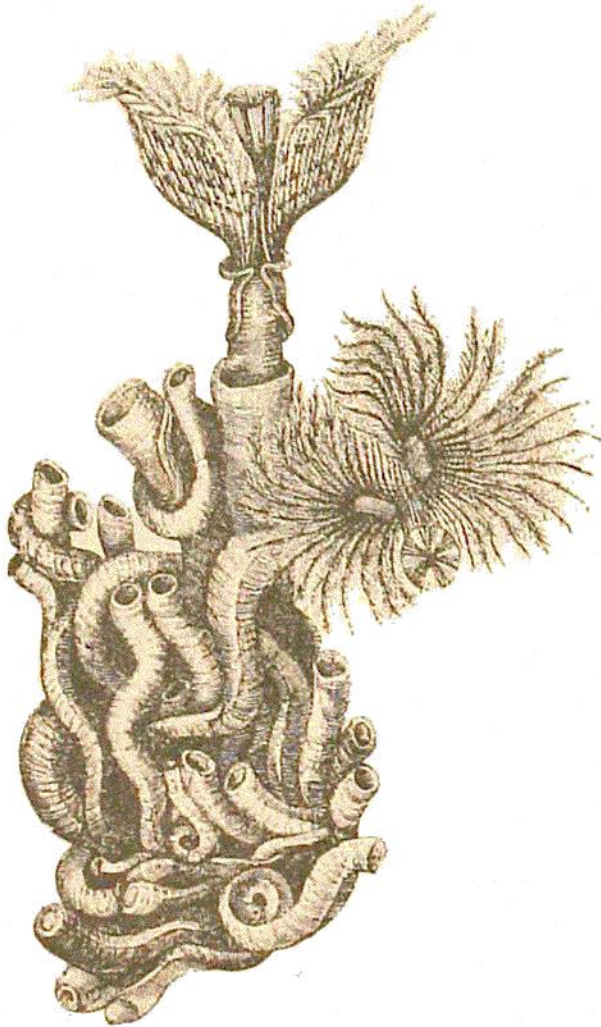


FIG. 344.  
*Serpula vermicularis*, Müll.

The large mussel, *Lima excavata*, is extremely characteristic of the rocky bottom, attaching itself by means of its fine silky byssus-filaments. We may further mention a sea-slug (*Psolus squamatus*, see Fig. 346), easily recognisable owing to its abruptly truncated disc with suckorial feet, by which it adheres to stones, shells, etc.; a crinoid (*Antedon petasus*) occurring locally, though often in abundance, especially where there are sponges; several star-fishes, *Pentagonaster granulatus*, *Porania pulvillus*, *Hippasterias phrygiana (plana)*, which last seems to prefer places where the hard bottom is covered with coarse sand; a brittle-star (*Ophiopholis aculeata*); molluscs, as, for instance, species of *Pecten*; ascidians, particularly of the family

Styelidæ; sea-spiders (*Nymphon strömi*), etc. At considerable depths there is also the remarkable starfish *Brisinga endecacnemos*. Some of these are exclusively deep-sea forms, and rarely leave the deeper parts of this zone. *Munida tenuimana*, *Bathyploetes tizardi*, *Brisinga endecacnemos*, and *Lima excavata* do not occur in depths less than 300 or 400 metres.

Littoral zone.

(3) *Other Northern Boreal Coastal Areas*. — There are several areas where the littoral zone has been but little studied,

<sup>1</sup> *Pandalus propinquus*, *P. brevirostris*, *Hippolyte polaris*, and *H. securifrons*.

<sup>2</sup> Thus a hermit-crab (*Pagurus pubescens*), which occurs, too, in the littoral zone, is quite common, and so are *Munida rugosa*, which also inhabits soft bottom, and the stone-crab (*Lithodes maja*).