

several stations, for instance on the northern slope of the Dogger Bank (38 metres) and north-west of the Great Fisher Bank (77 metres).

The little tube-worm *Filigrana implexa*, whose slender white irregular tubes are associated in trellis-work colonies, was met with over a large portion of the area examined, but only in the deeper parts. Another common form is *Thelepus circinnatus*, whose sinuous, parchment-like tube, covered with fragments of shells, grains of sand, etc., is attached to foreign substances such as empty mussel-shells, Flustra, etc. The annelid *Aphrodite aculeata* is characteristic of the North Sea, but is as a rule limited to the deeper parts with soft or "mixed" bottom, though nowhere found in any great quantity. I have already stated that *Sabella pavonia* is common,¹ and, speaking generally, we may say that as far as worms are concerned the central portion of the North Sea does not differ typically from the boreal portion of the Norwegian Sea.

One peculiarity of the deeper parts of the central North Sea is that on soft bottom there is an absence of the foraminifera so plentiful in the Norwegian fjords; this I can assert after examining very minutely the contents of the fine sieves through which the bottom-material was passed.

It has been mentioned that in the southernmost portion of the North Sea, off the coasts of Belgium, Holland, and south-eastern England, there are many forms of southern origin, which are absent in more northerly latitudes; some of them, however, find their way farther north than the others, though all keep to shallow waters with high temperatures. This is, for

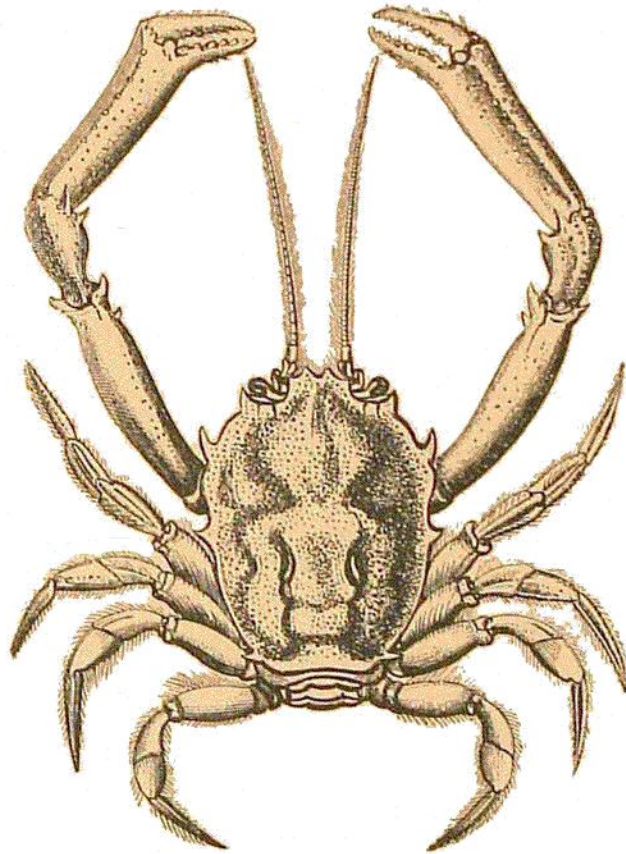


FIG. 353.

Corystes cassivelanus, Mont. ♂ Reduced. (After Bell.)

¹ On deep soft bottom we found representatives of the Maldanidæ, as well as *Eumenia crassa*, *Trochonia glauca*, *Lumbrineris*, and *Nephtys*, which we also find on the coasts.