

In the depression these are all common enough to be regarded as an essential part of the fauna. *Spatangus raschi*, for instance, appears never to approach the coasts or to enter the fjords, but keeps to the deeper parts of the plateaus where it takes the place of *Spatangus purpureus*; it has also been found by the "Michael Sars" on the continental slopes south of the Faroe Islands. *Pontaster tenuispinus* only exceptionally enters the fjords of West Norway to the south of Stat, though it is found now and then in the Trondhjem fjord, and during the cruise of the "Michael Sars" in 1902 it was found at the mouth of the Sulensjord near Aalesund.<sup>1</sup> *Antalis agilis* and *Pandalus bonnierii* are only met with occasionally in the fjords,<sup>2</sup> and *Ulocyathus arcticus* belongs to the forms which do not enter our more southerly enclosed fjords, but may be met with in the more open northern fjords as far as the North Cape; it has also been found, according to Norman, on the Shetland plateau.

All or most of the forms enumerated as belonging to both the fjords and the plateaus, as well as those which chiefly or exclusively belong to the plateaus, may be met with as far north as Lofoten, and probably extend to the North Cape. The Norwegian North Atlantic Expedition came across many of the forms that inhabit the Norwegian depression and fjords in deep muddy hollows on the plateau north of Stat, and some of the forms occur on muddy bottom upon the outer slopes of the continental edge wherever the temperature is above 0° C.

One peculiarity of the Norwegian depression still remains to be mentioned, namely that a deep trench extends along the northeastern side to about the latitude of the Sogne fjord, approximately 400 metres deep, where experiments with lines revealed a true hard-bottom fauna of corals (*Paragorgia*, *Primnoa*) and sponges; the "Michael Sars" found this to be the case in several places in the trench.<sup>3</sup> It is strange that this deeper portion is not full of mud like the adjoining shallower parts, since usually we find a reversed state of things, hard bottom rising up out of the

<sup>1</sup> *Pontaster tenuispinus* is found in two variations of colour, namely a rather pale form of weak structure, which belongs exclusively to the warm area, and a deep-red form much more stoutly built, which as a rule seems to belong to cold areas, though reddish individuals of weak structure occur also in warmer waters.

<sup>2</sup> A good many individuals of *Pandalus bonnierii*, which used to be regarded as rare, have lately been found in the Norwegian depression and in the fjords north of Stat. It is of interest to state that the Danish research vessel "Thor" has found large quantities off South Iceland. It has also been discovered in the fjords near Bergen during certain years in varying quantities.

<sup>3</sup> Large well-developed colonies of *Lophohelia prolifera* were found on the plateau near Stat, together with other forms that are characteristic of such localities.