These appear to be representatives of the fauna peculiar to the steepest part of the slope, from 700 to 1500 metres (400 to 800 fathoms).

The "Michael Sars" captured on the Atlantic slope, in depths between 800 and 2600 metres, over 1200 fishes, the relative abundance of the different forms being as follows :—

569	fishes,	or about	47	per cent,	belonged to Macruridæ.
393	,,	33	,,	,,	Gadidæ (*Mora*, *Antimora*, *Lepidion*, *Halargyreus*).
66	,,	6	,,	,,	Alepocephalidæ.
47	,,	4	,,	,,	Sharks (*Centrophorus*, *Chimæra*, *Etmopterus*).

The remaining 10 per cent consisted of fish represented by only a few individuals (*Notacanthus*, rays, and others).

In about 400 to 500 fathoms (700 to 900 metres) we meet with forms having their lower limit in this region, which live in greatest abundance at 200 to 300 fathoms. As instances may be mentioned :—

	Bathymetrical Range.
Sebastes dactylopterus . . .	from 75 to 975 metres.
Motella macrophthalma . . .	,, 146 ,, 987 ,,
Hoplostethus mediterraneum . .	,, 140 ,, 1435 ,,

In about 300 to 350 fathoms (550 to 650 metres) we meet with real representatives of the fauna of the coast banks. The following are some of these species, found in deep water by the French expeditions, with their bathymetrical range :—

	Bathymetrical Range.
Merluccius vulgaris (hake) . .	from 65 to 640 metres.
Gadiculus argenteus . . .	,, 411 ,, 550 ,,
Zeugopterus megastoma . . .	,, 60 ,, 560 ,,
Dentex macrophthalmus . . .	,, 120 ,, 460 ,,

In these depths we thus find in the same hauls representatives of two entirely different faunas, and we must therefore consider this region as an intermediate belt.

Before attempting to describe the fauna of the coast banks, I wish to discuss some questions of general importance arising from the examination of animal life on the continental slopes.

Brauer on the distribution of the Macruridæ.

In his report on the deep-sea fishes of the "Valdivia" Expedition, Brauer gives a very able and interesting review of the general laws governing the geographical distribution of these fish, particularly the Macruridæ. While the genus *Macrurus* is found in all the oceans, he considers most of the *species* to be local. Of 116 species of Macruridæ he has so far