

for instance, easily recognisable owing to its long thick spines, is one of the most characteristic forms of the plateaus and especially of the edges, but hitherto not found within the fjords; a characteristic brittle-star, *Gorgonocephalus lamarcki*, is also a plateau form, represented within the fjords by *Gorgonocephalus linckii*. One species of *Echinus* (*E. acutus* forma *norvegicus*) is often found in quantities, and far exceeds the fjord form in size. There are also the following brittle-stars, some of which are found in large quantities: *Ophiacantha abyssicola* and *O. bidentata*, *Ophiactis abyssicola*, all three of which are pure coast forms that do not go far up the fjords,<sup>1</sup> *Ophiopholis aculeata*, *Ophiura sarsi*, *Ophioscolex glacialis*, and *O. purpurea*, which are commonly found on the edges and are also fjord forms. During a cruise of the "Michael Sars" in 1902, the lines on the Faroe Edge yielded a large number of molluscs (*Sipho glaber*, or a very similar form), which attached themselves to the bait, but they seem to occur in such abundance only in a few localities. The tubeworm *Placostegus tridentatus* is frequently found attached to the stones, and a deep-water barnacle (*Verruca strömi*) also, both of them being characteristic of the rocky bottom in the deep parts of the fjords; and on the spines of *Dorocidaris* there is now and then a *Scalpellum*. There are large quantities of the little mussel *Anomia*, which is also commonly found in the fjords. Corals, too, are found locally on the edges just as much as in the fjords, and the species are the same.<sup>2</sup>

The spaces between the stones are filled with sandy mud, so that the forms accustomed to soft bottom may be found there. How many of the characteristic species occur on the edges cannot be stated with certainty, but probably many, if not most, of the forms belonging to the soft bottom of the plateaus inhabit the edges also, though not in such great abundance.<sup>3</sup>

My reason for mentioning the fauna of the plateau-edges separately is, not that the forms constitute a separate faunal

<sup>1</sup> This is true of the Norwegian fjords south of Stat, though these species, like several others, have been found in the Trondhjem fjord.

<sup>2</sup> The dredge brought up branches of *Primnoa*, *Paragorgia*, *Paraspongodes*, *Lophohelia*, and *Amphihelia*; also *Sertularella gayi*, *Allopora*, sponges, masses of *Ophiacantha bidentata*, *Ophiacantha abyssicola*, *Ophioscolex purpurea*, *Ophiactis abyssicola*, *Gorgonocephalus*. Deep-sea individuals of *Echinus esculentus* were found both by Sars and by the "Michael Sars" in 1906, though as a rule they differed in shape from those found in the middle of the North Sea.

<sup>3</sup> Of the forms found by G. O. Sars, by the Norwegian North Atlantic Expedition, and by the "Michael Sars" on the Great Edge and its northerly continuation, as well as by the "Michael Sars" on the Faroe Edge, we may mention *Stichopus tremulus*, *Spatangus raschi*, *Echinocyamus pusillus*, *Schizaster fragilis*, *Astarte sulcata*, *Poromya granulata*, *Limopsis minuta*, *Onuphis*, *Nephtys*, and other annelids, etc.; all these forms belong to soft bottom.