not find there many of the forms that on the west coast of Norway are chiefly distributed in the great depths of the fjord;[1] there are also certain forms living in deep water at the Shetlands having a southern distribution, Atlantic or Mediterranean forms which find their northern limit there. These differences may to some extent be due to the warm Atlantic water which flows over the Shetland plateau; thus the "Michael Sars" found a temperature of 9.12° C. on the western edge at a depth of 300 metres, and captured with a line a southern shark (*Hexanchus griseus*), frequently taken by British fishermen, which has never been caught farther north in the Norwegian Sea. It is interesting to remark that some of the forms, though no doubt only stray individuals, make their way eastwards along the northern portion of the North Sea plateau as far as the edge of the Norwegian depression, beyond which, however, they never pass, like the crab *Portunus tuberculatus*[2] and the starfish *Luidia ciliaris*, which were captured on the northern slope of the Viking Bank. Others penetrate even into the Norwegian fjords, like the hermit crab *Pagurus meticulosus* (*tricarinatus*), and the crab *Atelecyclus septemdentatus*, small individuals of which were captured on several occasions in the Bergen fjord. Some of the southern forms occurring off the Shetlands wander down along the east coast of Scotland and England, though without spreading farther eastwards, and we find the same faunal agreements and dissimilarities between the east coast of Britain and the west coast of Norway as in the case of the Shetlands.

Certain parts of the plateaus, at a depth of 100 to 150 metres, seem to be favourite abodes of the hydroids, which form regular forests on the bottom, and are plentifully represented by both species and individuals. Just as with the hydroid fauna in the laminaria tracts, so here, too, an assemblage of other animal groups, especially lower crustaceans and naked molluscs, live upon and among these hydroids.[3]

The hydroids appear to occupy comparatively large tracts of the plateaus, though not regularly distributed over their

[1] For instance, *Stichopus tremulus*, *Bathyplotes tizardi*, *Amphiura norvegica*, *Pandalus propinquus*, *Munida tenuimana*.

[2] A specimen of this species was also taken on the deeper part of the slope, in 275 metres, with a temperature of 7.94° C.

[3] Characteristic and common forms of hydroids were: *Thujaria thuja*, easily recognisable owing to its verticillate branches, *Hydrallmannia falcata*, *Diphasia abietina* and *D. fallax*, *Sertularella tricuspidata*, *Lafoea* sp., *Campanularia volubilis*. Among the lower crustaceans it is especially the caprellids (*Æginella spinosa*) and the arcturids (*Astacilla longicornis* and *Arcturus* sp.) which climb about among the hydroids by means of their specially adapted feet. Eolids too creep about here in great numbers.