

necessarily indicate mortality from extraordinary circumstances, but merely an accumulation, from a considerable area, of individuals whose deaths were due to natural causes. Although certain indications along the coasts of our own and other lands would appear to justify us in regarding currents as a means of conveyance, we know far too little about the matter to be able to discuss it with any profit.¹

In my remarks regarding the edge of the Norwegian depression I endeavoured to show that the fauna of this part of the North Sea differs from that in its more central parts (see p. 506); for this difference, however, the depth, nature of the

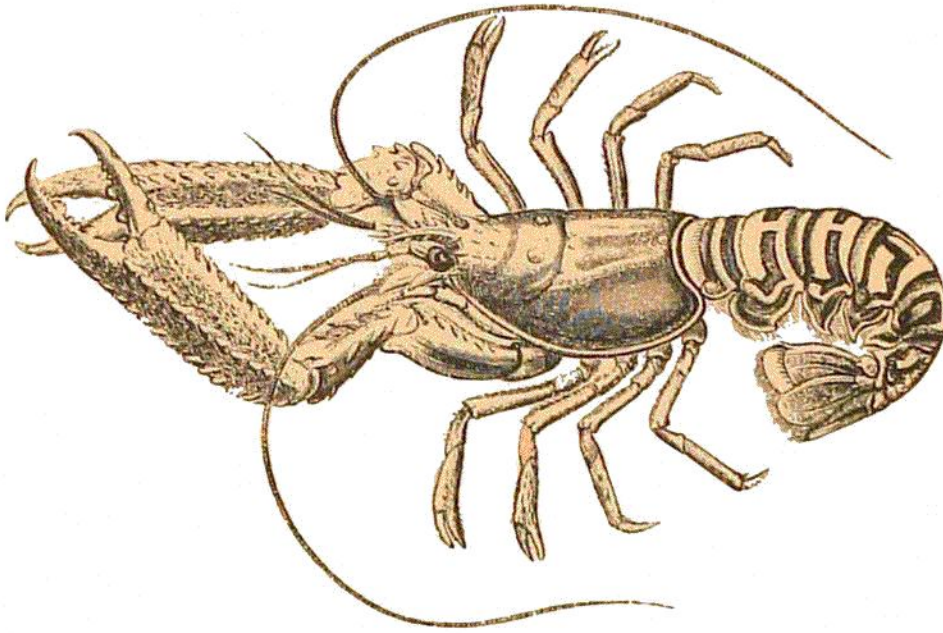


FIG. 357.

Nephrops norvegicus, L. Reduced. (After Bell.)

bottom, and temperature cannot be held solely responsible. This difference holds good also for the continental plateau beyond the 100 metres curve. The "Michael Sars" captured in 110 to 150 metres: the crustaceans *Nephrops norvegicus* (see Fig. 357), *Geryon tridens*, *Sabinea sarsi*, *Pontophilus spinosus*, *Pandalus brevirostris*, *Hippolyte pusiola*, *Caridion gordonii*; the pycnogonids *Nymphon strömii* and *N. mixtum*; the echinoderms *Hippasterias plana* (according to Plate rarely found on the Great Fisher Bank), *Solaster endeca*, *Pteraster militaris* (two small specimens), *Ophiocten sericeum* (quantities of young specimens); the snail *Scaphander punctostriatus*, etc. None of these forms (except one individual of *Nymphon strömii*) were met with in the central portion of the North Sea. Three of them in particular

¹ Compare Heincke, "Die Mollusken Helgolands," *Wissensch. Meeresuntersuch. Komm. f. Untersuchung Deutsch. Meere*, Neue Folge, Bd. 1, pp. 140 et seq.