

Transitional
area between
the Atlantic
and the
Norwegian
Sea.

and the Faroe-Shetland channel. Johs. Schmidt first drew attention to this community. *Salpa fusiformis*, the larval actinia *Arachnactis albida* (the distribution of which is shown in Fig. 480), the barnacles *Lepas pectinata* and *L. fascicularis*, young stages of the thread-like fish *Fierasfer*, *Nerophis æquoreus*, larvæ of the common eel and scopelidæ (*Myctophum glaciale* and *M. punctatum*) occur here in great numbers. Excepting the salpæ, the barnacles and the leptocephali, which also occur in the warm Atlantic, all these forms live in what may be

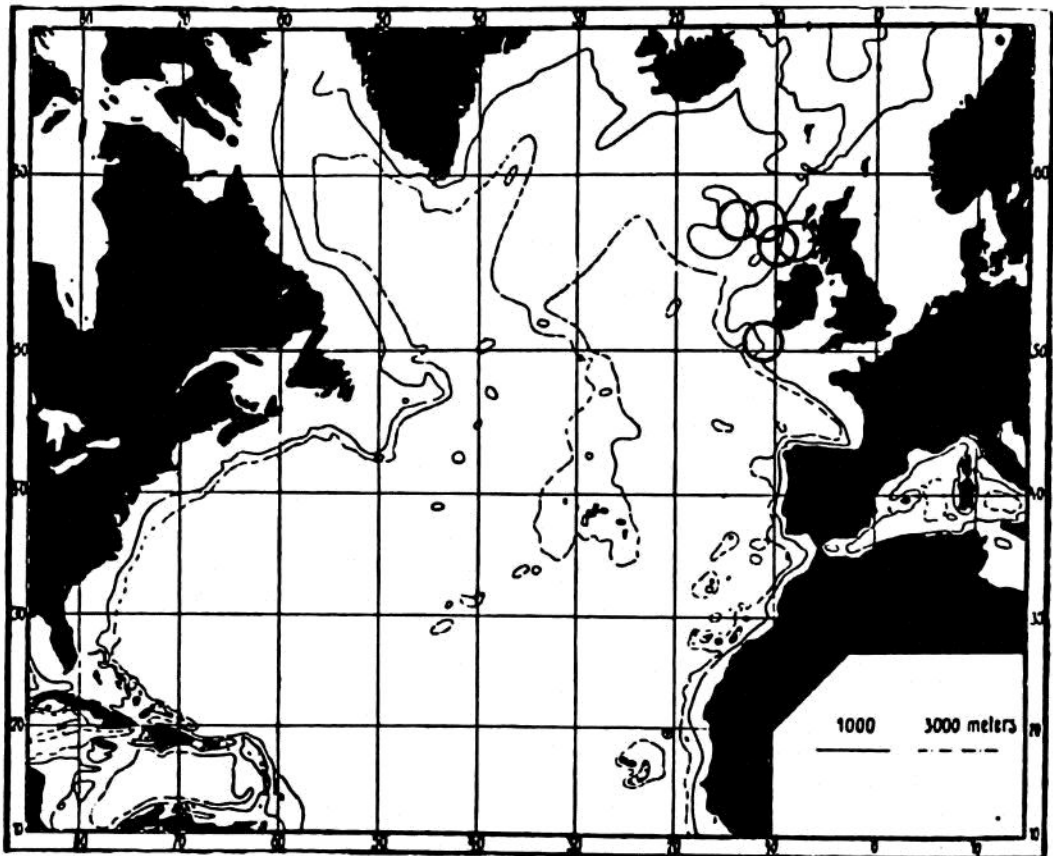


FIG. 480.—DISTRIBUTION OF *ARACHNACTIS ALBIDA*.

called a transitional area between the Atlantic and the Norwegian Sea.

The conditions of temperature in this bathymetrical region are shown in Figs. 159, p. 227, and 160, p. 228 (surface temperature for February and August), and in Fig. 312, p. 445 (temperature at 100 metres). Comparing these charts with the current chart in Chapter X., we obtain a good impression of the currents of the North Atlantic. The warm Gulf Stream, originating in the Gulf of Mexico, follows the east coast of the United States towards the Banks of Newfoundland, where it divides into several branches. A northern branch appears to run towards Davis Strait, partly as an undercurrent. An eastern branch runs towards the Azores and, spreading out like a fan,