

*frondosa*, *Psolus fabricii*, and possibly *Psolus phantapus*, appear to be distributed round or nearly round the pole.

Only a few Holothurids, viz., *Holothuria atra* and *Holothuria impatiens*, are with certainty known to be "circumequatorial," and *Holothuria occidentalis*, *Holothuria rigida*, *Mülleria parvula*, and several others may doubtless be proved to have the same wide distribution. Considering the great conformity between the Holothurids in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, it does not appear improbable that an exchange of forms is still going on between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, and that this takes place round the south coast of Africa. There is great probability that the currents in the Atlantic Ocean, as well as in other seas, transport animals in the larval state from one coast to another. No shallow-water Holothurid is, of course, known to be completely cosmopolitan.

Though our present knowledge with regard to the distribution of the Holothurids is too insufficient to establish definite features of the different oceans, a few points which are probably accurate may be mentioned.

*The Arctic Ocean.*—The Synaptidæ, in regard to the number of species, are very poorly represented. The genus *Synapta* has only a single representative, *Synapta inhærens*, and it, besides being very rare, is not a true arctic form. *Chirodota lavis* and *Myriotrochus rinckii*, on the contrary, are present in great numbers, and the latter as well as *Trochoderma elegans*, both very strange forms, may be said to give a character to the arctic fauna. Among the Molpadidæ, *Eupyrgus scaber* is singular in general appearance, and peculiar to the arctic ocean. The Dendrochirotæ have about twenty-five representatives, but not a single one of a remarkable shape except *Echinocucumis typica*, which is not a true arctic form. However, *Cucumaria frondosa*, one of the largest known Holothurids, abounds in several parts of the Arctic Sea, and gives the fauna a singular character, and the same may be said in a higher degree of the genus *Psolus*, which attains its maximum development in the northern seas, the three species *Psolus phantapus*, *Psolus fabricii*, and *Psolus squamatus*, being the largest known forms of this genus. The Aspidochirotæ are nearly absent, only two or three forms, *Holothuria intestinalis*, *Holothuria tremula* (?) and *Holothuria ecalcareia*, having been with certainty found in the southern part of the arctic region. With a few exceptions, *Cucumaria frondosa*, *Holothuria tremula* and *Trochostoma boreale*, the northern Holothurids are almost devoid of colouring matters in the integument.

The *Antarctic Fauna* is too insufficiently known to admit of any general statements.

*The Atlantic Ocean.*—The Atlantic Ocean, which can be divided into several regions, the North Atlantic, the South Atlantic, the West Indian and the Mediterranean, contains, as may be seen from the tables, a much greater number of shallow-water Holothurids than the Arctic Sea, but scarcely one can be said to characterise it. Of course there are many species hitherto known only from the Atlantic Ocean, but they do not in general present