

G. O. SARS. Copépodes particulièrement bathypélagiques provenant des campagnes scientifiques du Prince Albert Ier de Monaco. Résultats des campagnes scientifiques accomplies . . . par Albert Ier Prince Souverain de Monaco. Fasc. LXIX, Planches I—CXXVII, Monaco 1924—25.

In these two volumes, text and plates, Prof. Sars gives us his long expected review of the pelagic Copepoda taken over a long series of years on the various cruises carried out by the late Prince of Monaco in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Preliminary lists and brief descriptions of new species have been published by the author from time to time during the last twenty years in the Bulletins of the Monaco Museum and the Institut Océanographique, and this final account will be very welcome to all workers at the group.

The present work deals with the sub-order Calanoida, which includes a large majority of the pelagic species, and contains ample figures and descriptions of almost every species mentioned with the exception of some well known forms, many of which have already been figured in the author's «Crustacea of Norway». A subsequent volume dealing with the remaining sub-orders Harpacticoida and Cyclopoida is promised.

The total number of species recorded is 296 and about two fifths of these are now fully described and figured for the first time. The bulk of the collection, including most of the new species, was taken with townets of a comparatively large mesh (Filet Richard à grande ouverture) in the deep water of the North Atlantic. Species of less than 2 mm. in length appear to have escaped capture or are represented by a few records in the case of the commoner forms. This selection, if not allowed for, might lead one to doubt the common belief that the Copepoda are mainly minute or microscopic forms, for among the species mentioned lengths of 5 or 6 mm. are frequent and several reach a length of 10 or 12 mm. or even more. When these great depths are explored with fine meshed nets the task of working out the collections will, it may be surmised, be a formidable one. As the author has already pointed out, many of the new species are only represented by one or two specimens, even in this extensive collection, a clear indication that this field for exploration is far from being exhausted.

The plates are reproduced directly from the author's drawings and it is needless to say that they reach the highest standard of faithfulness and artistry. Other illustrators of the Copepoda may have equalled Prof. Sars in accuracy but none has succeeded as well as he in catching the characteristic attitude of the animals which he figures.

In addition to the descriptions and figures, questions of synonymy and records by other writers are fully discussed and the distribution of each species briefly summarized. Taken in conjunction with the «Crustacea of Norway» the work forms a comprehensive and indispensable guide to the Copepoda Calanoida of the North Atlantic.

G. P. F.