

and Loch Ness very poor. The two lochs are only some 10 miles apart, and are apparently under almost identical conditions. Loch Lochy, being in an almost uninhabited district, should be purer than Loch Ness, but a slight pollution is generally favourable to vegetable growth.

*Littoral region.*—Though there are only a few sheltered bays in Loch Ness where littoral vegetation can establish itself, the microfauna and microflora found among the larger vegetation are very considerable, and constitute, indeed, the chief part of the species in the loch.

A great many of the animals extend downwards to a very considerable depth, and about 40 species (exclusive of Rhizopods), including many Crustacea, Rotifers, Tardigrada, Worms, and the larvæ of many insects, have been collected as far down as 300 feet. Shells of all the Rhizopods extend to the greater depth, and many live at greater depths than 300 feet.

In Inchnacardoch bay Mr. Scourfield found *Ophryoxus gracilis* for the first time in Britain; and the rare *Ilyocryptus agilis*, previously known in several places in England, was got in the same locality.

*Abyssal region.*—In Loch Ness a large proportion of the littoral species extend to about 300 feet in depth, probably because of the very steeply sloping sides. Those species only are considered as truly abyssal which are generally distributed over the mud, into the deepest part of the loch. A small association of animals is found thus distributed, and the abyssal region, being defined as the bottom where this association is found almost free of admixture, must be considered to begin at about 300 feet. Exclusive of Rhizopods, there are about a dozen animals constantly found in this region, comprising—1 Mollusc, *Pisidium pusillum*, Gmel., 3 Crustacea, *Cyclops viridis*, Jurine, *Candona candida*, Müll., and *Cypria ophthalmica*, Jurine; 3 worms, *Stylodrilus gabreteæ*, Vejd., *Automolus morgiensis* (Du Plessis), and an undetermined Oligochæte; 1 insect, *Chironomus* (larva); several Infusoria, parasites on the Molluscs and Crustacea.

Several other species occur casually at great depths, such as *Hydra*, *Limnæa*, *Lynceus affinis*, and *Proales daphnicola*.

A small char, *Salmo alpinus*, was dredged at a depth of over 500 feet.

Larvæ of *Tanyptus* and some other diptera are frequent, but less constant than *Chironomus*.

*Rhizopods.*—Dr. Penard has identified about 40 species and varieties from depths of more than 300 feet. They thus constitute the greater part of the species in our abyssal region, but their presence there is of little special interest, and there are only some half a dozen species and varieties which are doubtfully supposed to be peculiar to deep lakes.