

a close analogy to those of the arctic region. It is another glacial fauna, namely, the antarctic. Having thus sketched the general divisions of the faunas, it remains to point out the principal features of each of them.

420. I. ARCTIC FAUNA. — The predominant feature of the Arctic Fauna is its uniformity. The species are few in number; but, on the other hand, the number of individuals is immense. We need only refer to the clouds of birds which hover upon the islands and shores of the North; the shoals of fishes, the salmon among others, which throng the coasts of Greenland, Iceland, and Hudson's Bay. There is great uniformity, also, in the form and color of these animals. Not a single bird of brilliant plumage is found, and few fishes with varied hues. Their forms are regular, and their tints as dusky as the northern heavens. The most conspicuous animals are the white-bear, the moose, the reindeer, the musk-ox, the white-fox, the polar-hare, the lemming, and various Seals; but the most important are the Whales, which, it is to be remarked, rank lowest of all the Mammals. Among the Birds may be enumerated some sea-eagles and a few Waders, while the great majority are aquatic species, such as gulls, cormorants, divers, petrels, ducks, geese, gannets, &c., all belonging to the lowest orders of Birds. Reptiles are altogether wanting. The Articulata are represented by numerous marine worms, and by minute crustaceans of the orders Isopoda and Amphipoda. Insects are rare, and of inferior types. Of the type of Mollusks, there are Acephala, particularly Tunicata, fewer Gasteropods, and very few Cephalopods. Among the Radiata are a great number of jelly-fishes, particularly the Berœe; and to conclude with the Echinoderms, there are several star-fishes and Echini, but few Holothuriæ. The class of Polypi is very scantily represented, and those producing stony corals are entirely wanting.