

of unusually fine globigerina deposit and some small stones. The second instrument came up quite full of the deposit; but it was neither so free from amorphous matter, nor did it contain any of the small stones. Adhering, however, to the last fifty fathoms of line, which had rested on the ground for several moments, were thirteen ophiocomæ, varying in diameter across the arms from two to five inches." The misfortune of these star-fishes was that they did not go into the dredge; had they done so, they would at once have achieved immortality. Now, of course, we have no doubt that they came from the bottom, but their irregular mode of appearance left, in the condition of knowledge and prejudice at the time, a loophole for scepticism.

In three soundings, including that in which the star-fishes were obtained, at 1,260, 1,913, and 1,268 fathoms respectively, "minute cylindrical tubes occurred, varying from one-eighth to half an inch in length, and from one-fiftieth to one-twentieth of an inch in diameter. These were built up almost exclusively of very small globigerina shells, and still more minute calcareous *débris* cemented together." . . . . "The shells forming the outer layer of the tubes were colourless, and freed of all sarcodic matter; but the internal surface of the tubular cylinder was lined with a delicate yet distinct layer of reddish chitine." Dr. Wallich is satisfied that these tubes contained some species of annelid. "In a sounding taken in lat. 63° 31' N., long. 13° 45' W., in 682 fathoms, a portion of a *serpula*-tube five-twelfths of an inch in length, and about three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, belonging to a