

known species, came up in such a condition as to leave no room for doubt that it had been broken off the rock or stone to which it was adherent by the sounding-machine, and that the animal was living; whilst a smaller *Serpula* and a cluster of apparently living polyzoa were adherent to its external surface. A minute *Spirorbis* also occurred in this sounding. Lastly, from a depth of 445 fathoms, within a short distance of the south coast of Iceland, a couple of living amphipod crustaceans were obtained, and a filamentous annelid about three-quarters of an inch in length." Basing his opinion principally upon these facts, Dr. Wallich, in conclusion, submits several propositions, the two most important of which may be said to anticipate the more remarkable results of our subsequent work. As the others are merely founded upon what I conceive to be a mistaken determination of the animal species captured, I need not now quote them.<sup>1</sup>

"1. The conditions prevailing at great depths, although differing materially from those which prevail at the surface of the ocean, are not incompatible with the maintenance of animal life.

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"5. The discovery of even a single species, living normally at great depths, warrants the inference that the deep sea has its own special fauna, and that it has always had it in ages past; and hence that many fossiliferous strata heretofore regarded as having been

<sup>1</sup> And see Professor Sars' "Bemærkninger over det dyriske Livs Udbredning i Havets Dybder, med særligt Hensyn til et af Dr. Wallich i London nylig udkommet Skrift, 'The North Atlantic Seabed.'" (Vid.-Selsk. Forhandlinger for 1864.)