

## P R E F A C E



THE important objects for which H.M.S. *Challenger* was placed at the disposal of a scientific staff under the direction of Professor Sir Charles Wyville Thomson, F.R.S., the gratifying results obtained by the full investigation of the bed of the ocean, and the vast amount of information gathered by visits to distant lands very rarely explored, render the cruise of the *Challenger* highly interesting and instructive to the British public.

Under these circumstances, I have been induced by numerous friends to revise my daily journals, and publish in a concise and readable form a continuous narrative of this celebrated voyage.

In this volume I shall not in any way interfere with the scientific results, beyond simply naming them in a cursory and general way, leaving to