

white as if bleached. The majority of deep-sea animals are coloured in some way or another, many brightly so.

**Zoology and Botany of the Ship.**—The zoology of the “Challenger” itself was rather interesting. At the time that England was left the ship seemed nearly free of animals, other than men, dogs, and live stock required for food. The first Cockroaches apparently came on board at St. Vincent, Cape Verdes, for a large specimen of this insect was caught by one of the lieutenants on his bed soon after we left that port. Cockroaches soon became plentiful on board, and showed themselves whenever the ship was in a warm climate. A special haunt of a swarm of them was behind the books in the chemical laboratory, from which Mr. Buchanan in vain attempted to evict them.

At one period of the voyage, a number of these insects established themselves in my cabin, and devoured parts of my boots, nibbling off all the margins of leather projecting beyond the seams on the upper leathers. One huge winged Cockroach for a long time baffled me in my attempts to get rid of him. I could not discover his retreat. At night he came out and rested on my book-shelf, at the foot of my bed, swaying his antennæ to and fro, and watching me closely. If I reached out my hand from the bed, to get a stick, or raised my book to throw it at him, he dropped at once on deck, and was forthwith out of harm's way.

He bothered me much, because when my light was out, he had a familiar habit of coming to sip the moisture from my face and lips, which was decidedly unpleasant, and often awoke me from a doze. I believe it was with this object that he watched me before I went to sleep. I often had a shot at him with a book or other missile, as he sat on the book-shelf, but he always dodged and escaped. His quickness and agility astonished me. At last I triumphed, by adopting the advice of Captain Maclear, and shooting him with a pellet of paper from my air-gun, a mode of attack for which he was evidently unprepared; but I was taken to task for discharging the air-gun in my cabin, because it made a noise just like the sharp crack of a spar when broken by the force of the breeze, and created some excitement on the upper deck, where the sound was plainly heard.

In the zoological laboratory on board, small red ants established themselves, and used to follow trails up the legs of the tables, and find out anything eatable. Clothes-moths were a terrible pest, and destroyed several garments for me in my cabin. Mosquitoes swarmed in the ship at some ports, as well as house-flies, but these both disappeared when we had been at sea for a few days in a breeze.