

THE
VOYAGE OF H.M.S. CHALLENGER.

ZOOLOGY.

REPORT on the SHORE FISHES procured during the Voyage of H.M.S. Challenger in the Years 1873–1876. By ALBERT GÜNTHER, M.A., M.D., Ph.D., F.R.S., Keeper of the Department of Zoology in the British Museum.

THE collection of Fishes procured during the voyage of H.M.S. Challenger has been divided into two distinct series. The first consists of the specimens collected near the coast at the various localities at which the Expedition landed: they are littoral forms, to which a few obtained from fresh waters have been added. The second consists of the specimens obtained in the open sea, either from the surface or from the bottom; these are the Pelagic and Deep-sea forms.

The present part treats of the fishes of the first series only. Care has been taken to enumerate all the species collected, with a statement of the localities where they were captured; but descriptions of a part only are given—viz., of those which proved to be new or but imperfectly known. This series consists of 1400 specimens, representing 520 species, of which 94 are new to science; and, throughout, bears evidence of having been collected with judgment and discrimination; the specimens being carefully labelled, and, with but few exceptions, in an excellent state of preservation.

The opportunities of collecting shore fishes were dependent on many circumstances, and, consequently, the faunæ of the various localities are very unequally represented in this collection, as must needs be the case in all voyages of discovery.

Therefore it seemed to me far more useful to students of ichthyology, as well as to travellers, to arrange the materials geographically, than to follow a strictly systematic order. Indeed, in adopting this plan I have found a precedent in J. R. Forster's *Descriptiones Animalium*, which contains the zoological results of Cook's Voyage