

EDITORIAL NOTE.

THE Report on the Foraminifera by Mr. H. B. Brady, F.R.S., &c., occupies the whole of the present volume, the text and the plates being bound up separately. The Report forms Part XXII. of the Zoological Series of Reports on the Scientific Results of the Expedition, and is the largest which has been published up to the present time.

The representatives of this group of animals are universally distributed over the floor of the ocean and in the surface and subsurface waters, and moreover the presence or absence of the calcareous shells of certain Pelagic Species in the deposits from different depths and localities is intimately connected with some of the most interesting and intricate problems of General Oceanography.

It was of prime importance for the discussion of these questions relating to geographical and bathymetrical distribution to have a thorough revision of our knowledge of existing species and varieties, and it must be regarded as a fortunate circumstance that a naturalist so familiar with the Foraminifera as Mr. Brady should have undertaken such a very laborious piece of work.

It would be difficult to overestimate the amount of labour involved in a careful examination of the large quantity of material which Mr. Brady took as the basis of his Report, together with the comparison, determination, delineation, and description of the various species and numerous series of forms.

The Report itself is the best evidence of the success which has attended Mr. Brady's investigations, and it is not too much to say that this extensive Memoir will be an indispensable boon to all future workers in this branch of Research.

JOHN MURRAY.