

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

The introductory caution as to the insufficiency of our knowledge of the Geographical Distribution of Simple Ascidiæ which was given at the commencement of the corresponding section in the First Part of this Report applies with equal if not even greater force to the case of the Compound Ascidiæ. Still it may be of use to future investigators if the Challenger observations, so far as they have gone, are recorded and tabulated here; and the general arrangement and division into regions adopted in the First Part of the Report will be adhered to in order that a comparison of the results, in the case of the Simple and of the Compound Ascidiæ, may be readily made. In the map which will be found at the end of this Report the Geographical Distribution of the Simple as well as of the Compound Ascidiæ is indicated.

The track of the Challenger round the world has been divided into a series of comparatively short stages, so as to show roughly the localities between which the different observing Stations lie. These stages are arranged in the order in which they were traversed by the Expedition, and consequently the Stations are in chronological order, and the lists of species occur in the order in which they were collected. The chief objects of this arrangement are to show—(1) the approximate positions of the Stations at which Compound Ascidiæ were obtained, and (2) the list of species from each Station.¹

The red circles on the map indicate the Stations at which Tunicata were obtained.

Between England and the Canary Islands no Compound Ascidiæ were obtained.

Between the Canary Islands and the West Indies no Compound Ascidiæ were obtained.

Between the West Indies and Halifax, Nova Scotia, the following Compound Ascidiæ were obtained:—

Off Bermuda; shallow water.

Botrylloides nigrum.

Symplegma viride.

Didemnum inerme.

¹ In the case of a few of the species the locality at which the specimens were obtained is not known. These species, of course, do not occur in the lists.