

THE
VOYAGE OF H.M.S. CHALLENGER.

ZOOLOGY.

REPORT on the BRACHYURA collected by H.M.S. Challenger during the
Years 1873-76. By EDWARD J. MIERS, F.L.S., F.Z.S.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Collection of Brachyura obtained during the Expedition of H.M.S. Challenger contains a large number of new and very interesting types, which deserve perhaps a fuller treatment than it has been found possible to give to their description and illustration. The groups assigned to me as Brachyura are those included in this group by Professors H. Milne Edwards and J. D. Dana, who may perhaps still be regarded as the leading authorities on the classification of the higher Crustacea, and the arrangement followed is, as regards the four principal subdivisions, that of those naturalists, although considerably modified as regards the minor groups.

In the present Report no attempt has been made to enter into the anatomical or palæontological affinities of the Brachyura,—subjects which it seemed to me should be left to those students of the group, who, by special training and experience, would be better qualified than myself to discuss them—but merely to furnish a systematic account of the numerous species collected, to amend and modify the classification where necessary, and to give lists as complete as possible, of the recent species of each genus, so far as these are not included in the works of MM. H. and A. Milne Edwards, Professor J. Bell, F.R.S., and others who have revised families or subfamilies of the Brachyura; the numerous genera have also been redescribed on a uniform system, and it is thus hoped that the Report will prove, in the absence of any catalogue of the group, of assistance both to present and future systematists, and a useful supplement to the monographs of A. Milne Edwards (the first living authority upon this special group of the Crustacea), and to the