

In regard to the number of species found at the different localities this general fact may be noted, that at most of the stations only one or two species were found, while only a few yielded several or many forms. The statistics on which I based this result in my preliminary communication<sup>1</sup> have been slightly altered by the additions of some localities, and by changes in the determination of a few species, but these modifications are on the whole unessential, and the results stand thus. Of the fifty-eight soundings on the occasion of which Hexactinellida were found—

34 yielded only	1 species.
12	2
3	3
4	4
3	6
1	7
1	18

In his work *La vie au fond des Mers*, Filhol cites the statistics in question from my preliminary notice, and adds the following remark:—"Il résulte de ce tableau que dans plus de la moitié des cas les espèces d'Hexactinellides ont été trouvées isolées. Cette observation ne concorde pas avec celles que nous avons pu faire dans la partie de l'Atlantique nord, parcourue avec le *Talisman*, où les chaluts n'ont rapporté qu'exceptionnellement une seule espèce. Les *Askonema* ont été trouvées avec les *Aphrocallistes*; les *Hyalonema*, les *Euplectelles* étaient presque toujours associées." A possible solution of this apparent divergence in the results of two deep-sea expeditions, will be alluded to below when the general results as to the geographical distribution of the Hexactinellida are summed up.

The number of individuals of the same species found at one place is but rarely considerable. Generally only one or two specimens of each species were obtained at the same locality. Sometimes, however, a considerable number of specimens were found at once, as was the case with *Farrea occa* near St. Thomas, West Indies, *Aphrocallistes bocagei* off Bermudas, *Rossella antarctica* near the Kerguelen Islands, *Polylophus philippinensis* and *Pheronema globosum* at Little Ki Island, *Hyalonema depressum* in the middle of the North Pacific, and finally, *Crateromorpha meyeri*, *Polylophus philippinensis*, and especially *Euplectella aspergillum* at the Philippine Island, Zebu. Of the latter indeed, which was eagerly sought after, in a well-known locality, nearly a hundred specimens were obtained.

As to the richness of the different seas and regions in Hexactinellida, it is, in the first place, of interest to notice the absolute number of species found in the three great oceans. The following tables (IV. and V.) exhibit the state of the case in regard to this and similar points:—

<sup>1</sup> Narr. Chall. Exp., vol. i. part i. p. 449.