

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Hydrographic Part of the Narrative of the Cruise of H.M.S. Challenger would have been written by Captain Sir George S. Nares, K.C.B., had he remained in command of the ship during the whole of the voyage.

When the Expedition reached Hong Kong in December 1874, Captain Nares was recalled to take command of the last British Arctic Expedition, and he then placed his Journals in the hands of his successor in the Challenger,—the late Captain Frank Tourle Thomson.

Captain Thomson was, however, of opinion that the description of the Hydrographic Work of the Expedition should be undertaken by an officer who had been with the Challenger from the beginning, and consequently Captain Nares' Journals were, with the concurrence of the late Sir C. Wyville Thomson, handed over to Staff-Commander T. H. Tizard, the Senior Surveying Officer of the Expedition.

On the return of the Expedition to England, Staff-Commander T. H. Tizard was, on the recommendation of the Hydrographer to the Admiralty,¹ temporarily employed in the Hydrographic Office, for the purpose of preparing for publication the Charts, Diagrams, and Hydrographic Notes for the Narrative of the Cruise, and Commander J. L. P. Maclear and Lieutenant A. C. B. Bromley were also employed for a short time in preparing for publication the Magnetical Observations. The Journals of Captain G. S. Nares were freely used by the Challenger Officers, and they had throughout the assistance of the permanent Officers of the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty. This work was commenced in 1876 and completed in 1879,

¹ Then Captain F. J. Evans, R.N., C.B., in succession (in 1874) to Rear-Admiral G. H. Richards, C.B., under whose auspices the Expedition was originally fitted out.