

Murray of the Fishes, Protozoa, and all that related to the deep-sea deposits. Immediately after the examination of the contents of the dredge or trawl, one of the naturalists entered the names of the species, so far as known, in a book called the "Station Book," with remarks as to the number of specimens and their condition. This arrangement worked very well. During the first few months of the Expedition a few specimens may, from insufficient arrangements, have been destroyed, but as the naturalists became more accustomed to work on board ship, hardly a specimen from any of the deep-sea stations was lost or misplaced. Doubtless some of the smaller forms and parasites may have escaped observation when the trawl came in late in the evening, or when the weather did not permit careful examination, and some delicate fishes and invertebrates from deep water were mutilated beyond identification; but with these exceptions, the foregoing lists of the organisms taken in the deep-water trawlings and dredgings may be regarded as a complete record of all the species captured, with the exception of the Protozoa. In the early part of the cruise small samples only of the deposits were preserved, from the belief that the quantity brought up was much greater than would be required for any scientific purpose; all the deposit in the trawl or dredge was, however, passed through sieves before being thrown away, and the larger particles thus procured were preserved. In the later years of the voyage much larger quantities of the deposits were preserved and brought home.

At almost every place where the ship came to anchor extensive collections of marine animals were made by trawlings and dredgings from the steam pinnace in shallow water. These collections were made use of by the naturalists for their own study and information, but only mere fractions of them were preserved, with the exception of collections made on a few remote or rarely visited coasts. This accounts for the rather meagre lists of shallow-water marine animals recorded at many places visited by the Expedition, especially during the early part of the voyage. It was thought that the extensive preservation of shallow-water marine specimens might seriously interfere with the more important investigations of the deep sea, which were rightly regarded as the special and proper sphere of our labours. Even on board the Challenger there was a limit to the number of specimen-bottles, the quantity of spirit for the preservation of specimens, and of space for storage. Still, with a little arrangement before-hand, many valuable collections might have been dispatched direct to Great Britain without necessarily hampering the peculiar researches for the prosecution of which the Expedition was organised, and the national collections might in this way have been greatly enriched by many excellent collections and new species of organisms from distant parts of the world.

The tow-nets made of bunting, fine cotton cloth, gauze or silk, were continually dragged through the surface and sub-surface waters of the ocean, and were frequently sent to great depths. Very many separate collections of pelagic organisms were made in this way during a single day when the conditions were favourable, and these were at the time

WORK OF
NATURALISTS
DURING DREDGING
AND TRAWLING
OPERATIONS.

SHORE AND
SHALLOW-WATER
COLLECTIONS.