

Expedition, and that a temporary Government department, with a small annual grant, should be created, the duty of which should be to direct the discussion of the physical and biological observations, the examination of the collections, and the publication of the scientific results, so far as these had a bearing on the science of Oceanography. It was arranged that the whole of the Official Report on the Scientific Results of the Expedition should be published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office, and that the typical collections should be ultimately deposited in the British Museum. Sir C. Wyville Thomson was appointed director of this temporary Government department, and I became the first assistant.

These arrangements took effect in the spring of 1877. Shortly afterwards Sir C. Wyville Thomson's health unfortunately broke down; he continued in ill health until his death in March 1882, and delay was thereby caused in the progress of the work. But the style of the publications had been settled by him, a considerable part of the collections had been sent to Naturalists for examination and description, and a few Zoological Memoirs were published before 1882. Sir Wyville Thomson had not been able, however, to decide on any definite and complete scheme with reference to the scope of the Report as a whole, nor was he able to undertake the preparation of any manuscript in connection with the Narrative of the Voyage and the special Zoological Memoirs he had himself proposed to write.

After I succeeded to the direction in January 1882, the work connected with these publications was carried on in consultation with a Committee of the Royal Society. During the six succeeding years, rapid progress was made with the investigations and memoirs dealing with the observations and collections of the Expedition, forty-six volumes, containing the Narrative of the Cruise and a large number of special memoirs having in this interval issued from the press.

In the year 1889 Her Majesty's Treasury declined to ask Parliament to renew the annual grant for the continuation of the work relating to the scientific results of the Expedition, the time estimated for the completion of the publications having expired. However, after some correspondence, in which I offered to finish the Report at my own expense, the Government agreed to set apart the sum of sixteen hundred pounds for the