

N O T I C E.

I FIND it difficult to express my obligation to my friend, Mr Alexander Agassiz, for the valuable assistance which he has given me in carrying out this undertaking.

Shortly after the return of the CHALLENGER Mr Agassiz came to Scotland, and we went over the enormous collection together, when his remarkable familiarity with invertebrate forms was of the greatest possible service in selecting and separating the different groups, and preparing them for the specialists to whom they were finally to be consigned.

Mr Agassiz afterwards undertook the description of the ECHINOIDEA, in which order his personal acquaintance with all known types, recent and fossil, gives him an advantage as an authority over all his contemporaries: without some such special training, it would have been a matter at least of extreme difficulty to decipher the complex relations of the multitude of singular forms, intermediate between the faunæ of ancient and modern times, which have been brought to light by the Challenger Expedition.

In all cases in which the question of nomenclature has been left entirely to myself, I have, after full consideration, adopted the code approved by Mr Strickland's Committee, and successive Committees of the British Association, and especially that part which inculcates the reference of the name of every *species* to the name of the first post-Linnean describer. My friend and I agree to differ somewhat on these points, and I here take refuge in my former explanation, that in such cases I can act only as Editor.

Several important contributions to the natural history of some of the more obscure groups of marine articulata, have been for some years known from the