

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Report which forms the first part of the present volume is, as Mr. Lyman says, a complete Monograph of the Ophiuridæ and Astrophytidæ.

As representatives of these two families, especially the former, were the animals most frequently obtained in our trawlings and dredgings, the examination and description of our large collections has been a most laborious undertaking.

The Memoir contains the description of twenty new genera, and one hundred and sixty-seven new species, together with a list of all known forms.

To these must be added another new genus and three new species, which, for reasons stated in the Postscript, did not reach Mr. Lyman till his Monograph was in type.

The late Editor was most fortunate in securing the co-operation of our American friends, Messrs. Lyman and Agassiz, in working out the Echinodermata of the Expedition. It remains for me to congratulate Mr. Lyman on the successful completion of this valuable contribution to Science.

In the lists of the Challenger Reports which have hitherto been published, the paper which forms the second part of this volume has been entitled, "Report on the Marsupialia," but this name does not correctly indicate its true character.

Shortly after the return of the Challenger to England, one or two scarce Marsupials were handed over to Dr. (now Professor) D. J. Cunningham for anatomical examination.

While engaged in the study of these species, Professor Cunningham found it necessary, so far as the foot was concerned, to push his inquiries into the Mammalia generally; and to assist him in this more extended investigation, a