

THE
VOYAGE OF H.M.S. CHALLENGER.

ZOOLOGY.

REPORT on the ANNELIDA POLYCHÆTA collected by H.M.S. Challenger during the years 1873–76. By WILLIAM C. M'INTOSH, M.D., L.R.C.S.E., LL.D., F.R.SS. L. & E., F.L.S., C.M.Z.S., Soc. Psychol. Par. Soc. Honor., &c., Professor of Natural History in the University of St. Andrews.

INTRODUCTION.

DURING the organisation of the Challenger Expedition the subject of the Annelids had several times been brought under my notice by the late Dr. Gwyn Jeffreys, who more than any other marine zoologist in our country had kept the department in view during various dredging expeditions in the neighbouring seas. Though unable, by reason of strict and responsible official engagements, to lend any active service to the Expedition, I had explained as fully as possible the best mode of preserving these somewhat delicate animals (Annelids) both to Professor Wyville Thomson and Mr. Murray. Towards the middle of 1877 I received intimation from Sir Wyville Thomson about the examination of this part of the collection, which he described as somewhat limited in extent. A review of the specimens, however, on their arrival proved that instead of being limited, the series was an extensive one, and reflected much credit on the scientific staff of the Expedition. This was probably due to the interest taken in the group by the late Dr. Rudolf von Willemoes-Suhm, a young naturalist of great ability, whose previous acquaintance with the Annelida had been considerably extended by a trip to the Færøes just before the equipment of the Challenger. He was chiefly occupied with the Crustacea, it is true, during the voyage, though a few notes and sketches he made on the Annelids will be specially referred to. The loss of this