

THE
VOYAGE OF H.M.S. CHALLENGER.

ZOOLOGY.

REPORT on the CRUSTACEA MACRURA collected by H.M.S. Challenger during
the Years 1873-76. By C. SPENCE BATE, F.R.S., &c.

PREFACE.

THE Crustacea Macrura brought home by the Challenger Expedition were placed in my hands for examination and description by the late Sir C. Wyville Thomson, and the progress of the work has gone on under Mr. John Murray, the present Director of the Challenger Publications. The specimens, which were obtained by the dredge, trawl, tow-nets, or by other means, number about 2000, and, arranged according to species and localities, are preserved in about 400 bottles. All these have been carefully examined, the relative numbers of the sexes in most cases determined, and the anatomy and structure of one or more specimens of each species studied and figured, except where the specimens were too few to allow of their being broken up and dissected.

In making both the descriptions and drawings I have always felt that I was dealing with specimens of more than ordinary interest, since they were in many instances obtained from localities which are not likely to be again explored for some time, and which are scattered over a vast area of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans. Here I wish to express my indebtedness both to Mr. T. Wemyss Fulton, M.B., of the Challenger Editorial Staff, and to Mr. J. C. Richards, the former for his aid in watching the Report through the press, and the latter for his careful rendering of my drawings on the stone.

During the cruise, which lasted over three years and extended to some 70,000 miles, Macrura were obtained at 140 of the 277 stations at which trawling or dredging took place, in depths varying from 20 to 3000 fathoms, or, including those collected by the tow-net, from the surface down to about four miles.