

between the Prince Edward and Crozet Islands, in the Pacific off the Kermadec, Little Ki, and Philippine Islands.

In the middle of the oceans, as well as near the continents, Hexactinellids were indeed found, but generally speaking the abundance of species was less at a distance from the mainland, and in the middle of the great ocean basins, than in the neighbourhood of the continents or island groups.

It is necessary now to pass to the more detailed distribution of the individual groups in the various seas.

In the Atlantic 16 species of Lyssacina were found, in the Indian Ocean 11, and 37 in the Pacific.

If we consider again the number of localities at which dredging and trawling explorations were undertaken, we have the following results :—

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| For the 125 dredgings or trawlings in the Atlantic, | 16 species of Lyssacina, = 12·9 per cent. |
| · " 32 " " Indian Ocean, 11 " " 34·4 "              |   |
| " 119 " " Pacific, 37 " " 31·0 "                    |   |

As to Dictyonina, the Atlantic yielded 8, the Indian Ocean 3, and the Pacific 18 species. And in reference to the number of dredgings and trawlings in the same sea, these figures represent for the Atlantic 6·4 per cent., for the Indian Ocean 9·4 per cent., and 15·1 per cent. for the Pacific.

In regard to the separate families of Lyssacina, the Atlantic yielded 5 species of Euplectellidæ, the Indian Ocean 3, and the Pacific 5, that is to say, in reference to the number of dredgings and trawlings, 4 per cent. for the Atlantic, 9·4 per cent. for the Indian Ocean, and 6 per cent. for the Pacific. And here it should be noted further that the three species of Euplectellidæ found in the Indian Ocean belonged to the genera *Holascus* and *Malacosaccus*, i.e., to the subfamily Holascinæ, while in the Atlantic and Pacific representatives of all the three subfamilies were discovered. Of Asconematidæ the Atlantic yielded only 1 species, while in the Indian Ocean 4, and in the Pacific 3 were found. A reference to the relatively small number of dredgings and trawlings undertaken in the Indian Ocean, proves a special abundance of Asconematidæ in this last region.

The Atlantic yielded 3 species of Rossellidæ, the Indian Ocean 4, and the Pacific 14 species, which mostly belonged to the Crateromorphinæ.

In the Atlantic 7 Hyalonematidæ were found, in the Indian Ocean 2, and in the Pacific 13 species.

In reference to the Dictyonina, if we take all the Uncinataria together in consideration of the small number of representatives of the separate families, we find that the Atlantic yielded 5, the Indian Ocean 3, and the Pacific 15 species, that is, in reference to the number of dredgings and trawlings, 4 per cent. for the Atlantic, 9·4 for the Indian Ocean, and 12·6 for the Pacific. In a comparative survey of the separate