

THE
VOYAGE OF H.M.S. CHALLENGER.

ZOOLOGY.

REPORT on the NEMERTEA collected by H.M.S. Challenger during the Years 1873-76. By Dr. A. A. W. HUBRECHT, LL.D., C.M.Z.S., Professor of Zoology and Comparative Anatomy in the University of Utrecht.

INTRODUCTION.

It was in September 1884 that the collection of the Challenger Nemertea was handed over to me for investigation, on the express condition that the whole of the MS. and plates were to be ready within fifteen months.

I mention this, not only with a view of finding an excuse for omissions and curtailings which cannot fail to have been occasioned in this Report by its rather rapid elaboration, but at the same time in order to be able at the earliest moment to express my thanks to Professor W. C. M'Intosh of St. Andrews, in whose hands the Nemertea were placed on the return of the Expedition, for his suggestion that the working up of this group should be entrusted to me, his own time being fully occupied with the description of the Annelida of the Expedition.

He moreover placed at my disposal such notes as he had already found occasion to make upon the contents of the collection, some of them referring to species which he recognised as new to science. When in the following Report these notes are made use of, such passages will be specially indicated.

The material, as it was put into my hands, was contained in about thirty small bottles, and was without exception preserved in spirit. It looked far from promising from a