

BATHYMETRICAL DISTRIBUTION.

The Tetractinellida range from 0 to 1913 fathoms, the maximum depth being that recorded by Perceval Wright for *Thenea muricata* (*Wyville-thomsonia wallichii*, E. P. W.), from the North Atlantic. The range of the species of the Challenger collection is from 8 to 1850 fathoms.

In the following table the number of species in each of the groups of Sponges that have been described in the Challenger Reports is distributed in four columns, which are numbered I., II., III., IV., according as they were obtained from 0 to 50, 51 to 200, 201 to 1000, 1001 fathoms and upwards.

TABLE I.

	I. 0-50 Fathoms.	II. 51-200 Fathoms.	III. 201-1000 Fathoms.	IV. Above 1000 Fathoms.
Tetractinellida,	16	23	18	8
Hexactinellida,	27	43	55
Monaxonida,	44	45	53	25
Ceratosa,	13	5	3	...
Calcarea,	16	16	3	...

In the next table, the number of species in the first column¹ being taken as a basis, the numbers in the succeeding columns indicate the numbers of species which should have been found supposing they were equally distributed independently of the depth :—

TABLE II.

	I. 0-50 Fathoms.	II. 51-200 Fathoms.	III. 201-1000 Fathoms.	IV. Above 1000 Fathoms.
Tetractinellida,	16	20·5	30	72
Hexactinellida,	27	39·51	94·63
Monaxonida,	44	56·375	82·5	198
Ceratosa,	13	16·6	24·37	...
Calcarea,	16	20·5	30	...

¹ In the case of the Hexactinellida, since there are no species in the first column, the number in the second has been taken as a base; it would have been better (for purposes of comparison) if this had been done in all cases.