SUMMARY.

The Challenger collection contains 161 species, or well-marked varieties, of Anomura, referable to 52 different genera, and of these 86 species and 7 genera are described as new to science.

The large proportion of new species is scarcely to be wondered at when the nature of the Challenger dredgings is borne in mind. Prior to 1873 scarcely any deep-water investigations had been made in the seas visited by the Expedition, and the abysses of the ocean practically remained a sealed book to naturalists; hence it is not surprising that slightly more than three-fourths of the total number of new species were taken beyond the one hundred fathom line.

In some respects the collection is disappointing, a few of the shallow-water groups being but poorly represented, while many well-known and widely distributed species are conspicuous by their absence. The interest and value of the collection is, however, by no means confined to the deep-water forms, for the careful manner in which the locality and conditions of existence were noted at the time of capture has disclosed many important facts, and added materially to our knowledge of the distribution of shallow-water species. The main interest, however, centres in the Paguridea and the Galatheidea—two great groups which extend to abyssal depths.

The more highly specialised Anomura, *i.e.*, the Dromidea, Raninidea, and Hippidea, are less fully represented in the collection than the Macruran forms, and, like the Brachyura, they appear to be almost confined to shallow water. With the exception of *Homologenus*, founded by Alphonse Milne-Edwards for the reception of a West Indian species, to which a young Homolid taken by the Challenger is doubtfully referred, none of the Dromidea are known to occur beyond the five hundred fathom line, though several genera are found in comparatively deep water. So far as is known the Raninidea are even more completely restricted to shallow water, and few of the species in all probability occur at greater depths than 200 fathoms. The deepest water in which any Raninid has been found is 210 fathoms, at which depth specimens of the rare Japanese *Lyreidus tridentatus*, De Haan, were taken off the Fiji Islands. The Hippidea are represented by only four species, all of which have been previously described, though two belong to rare and little known forms. There is every reason to believe that the members of this