Before describing the various species dredged by the Challenger Expedition, it may be as well to mention that the Brachiopoda have been divided by Bronn into two great groups termed Apygia and Pleuropygia. Professor King, considering these to be inadmissible on certain grounds, substituted the name Clistenterata for the first group, on account of its including animals that are destitute of an anal aperture; and the term Tretenterata for the second, as it embraces animals provided with this opening. The former division contains species which have their valves articulated, and belong to the following genera and sub-genera—Terebratula, Terebratulina, Waldheimia, Terebratella, Magasella, Laqueus, Megerlia, Kraussina, Bouchardia, Platydia, Argiope, Cistella, Gwynia, Thecidium, Rhynchonella, and Atretia, among the recent forms. The latter division comprises species with unarticulated valves, such as Lingula, Glottidia, Discina, Discinisca, and Crania. Some very important modifications in the animal connected with these divisions, especially in what relates to the muscular system, are fully detailed in the anatomical memoirs to which we have already referred.

Long experience has shown that the subdivision of the large family TEREBRATULIDÆ into different genera and sub-genera, is not only necessary but fully warranted by the important differences assumed by the animal as well as by its skeleton or the calcified support of the labial appendages. It is, therefore, my firm belief that we are justified in maintaining Waldheimia as a distinct genus or section from Terebratula, just as much as to maintain Terebratella as distinct from Terebratula or Waldheimia. I, consequently, regret not being able to agree with my distinguished friend, Dr Gwyn Jeffreys, who seems inclined to unite the two first-named genera under the single name Terebratula, nor can I coincide with his statement (Proc. Zool. Soc., April 1878, p. 398):-"It is notorious that Terebratulina and Waldheimia gradually pass one into another, as well as into the main or typical genus Terebratula." My long study of the group would lead me to a completely different opinion, for not only are the differences presented between the animals of Terebratula and Waldheimia very great, but the characters of their loops are equally distinct. In Terebratula the loop is very short and simple, as is likewise the case in Terebratulina, while in Waldheimia, as so well shown by Herman Friele and by Mr Jeffreys himself, it has to go through a very complicated series of changes in the process of its development prior to attaining its full-grown and final condition, namely, that of a long, simple reflected loop. It also supports the principal branches of the labial appendages throughout their entire length, which is not the case in Terebratula or Terebratulina. There exists also in the dorsal valve of Waldheimia, a median septum which is not present in Terebratula, and which is a constant help to the Palæontologist, enabling him, without seeing the interior of the shell, or its animal, to distinguish in the fossil condition species that belong to Waldheimia; a dark median longitudinal line being generally observable through the thickness of the shell, and extending from the umbo to about one-third of its length.