

The preceding Table shows—first, that the Challenger Expedition obtained Compound Ascidiæ in all of the seven great areas into which the seas of the globe have been divided; and, secondly, that comparatively few species were found in the Pacific Oceans. This is somewhat surprising, since more species of Simple Ascidiæ were collected in the South Pacific area than in any of the other regions.¹

The Botryllidæ appear to be almost entirely confined to the North Atlantic, the only exceptions—according to the Challenger investigations—being the two species and a variety of *Botrylloides* which were obtained at or near the Philippine Islands.

The Distomidæ are distributed throughout all the oceanic areas with the exception of the North Pacific, and the genus *Colella* is represented in at least four of them, the Southern Ocean, the seas of the Malay Archipelago, the South Pacific, and the seas of South America.

The great family Polyclinidæ is also found in all the regions except the North Pacific; more species are found in the Southern Ocean than elsewhere. Some of the larger genera, such as *Polyclinum*, *Aplidium*, *Amaroucium*, and *Psammaphidium*, have a very wide range.

The Didemnidæ occur in all the seven areas, the single Compound Ascidian (*Leptoclinum japonicum*) found in the North Pacific being a species of this family. The genus *Leptoclinum* (the largest genus in the Challenger Collection) is represented in all the regions, but is more abundant in the North and South Atlantic than elsewhere.

The Challenger Diplosomidæ occur in the South Atlantic and in the Malay region. The family was previously known from the North Atlantic area. The Cœlocormidæ are only known from the South American region.

The family Polystyelidæ has a wide range. It was previously known from the North Atlantic area, and the Challenger investigations have shown that it is also represented in the South Atlantic, the Southern Ocean, the Malay seas, and the South American region. No members of the family have yet been discovered in the Pacific Ocean.

Probably the most important conclusion to be drawn from the table is the wide distribution of most of the families and genera.

In the following table, the last illustrating the geographical distribution of the Ascidiæ Compositæ, the occurrence of the different genera and species according to the latitude is shown in both northern and southern hemispheres. A + means merely that the species opposite which it is placed was found by the Challenger Expedition somewhere between the limits of latitude which the column represents. Hence it may indicate more than one occurrence of the same species.

¹ See Part I. of this Report (vol. vi., 1882), p. 262.