

Bean, whose publications will be duly referred to in the descriptive part of this Report. So far as the materials have been worked out, they show that fishes recorded by the Challenger from great depths live in much shallower water in other parts of the ocean, and that, on the other hand, many littoral forms descend to within the vertical limits of the deep-sea fauna. The greatest depth from which the capture of fishes is reported was 2900 fathoms, nearly the same as that stated by the Challenger.

3. By the explorations of the Færøe Channel, in H.M.S.S. "Knight Errant" and "Triton," in the years 1880 and 1882, our knowledge of the deep-sea fishes between the British Islands and the Polar Sea was much advanced; in fact, nothing was known previously about this district. The trawl was used in from 200 to 640 fathoms.¹ All the species collected are embodied in the present Report; they proved to be partly identical with those collected by the Norwegian expedition, and partly closely allied to types which were previously known from the Mediterranean.

4. The deep-sea explorations undertaken by the French Government, and entrusted to a commission under the presidency of Professor Milne-Edwards, began in the year 1880. A vessel, "Le Travailleur," was employed for short periods in three consecutive years, and replaced by the larger "Talisman" in 1883. The field of operations was in the first years the Bay of Biscay, and extended to the Mediterranean and the Canary Islands, but still more work was done in the "Talisman," in which the expedition made a series of observations off the coast of Morocco southward to Cape Verde Islands and the Sargasso Sea, and westward to the Azores. From the general reports published it would appear that the materials collected contain important contributions to our knowledge of deep-sea fishes, but no authentic information has been published, with the exception of a supposed new genus, *Eurypharynx*.

5. The Italian Government despatched a ship of the Royal Navy, the "Washington," in three consecutive years (1881-3) for the exploration of the depths of the Mediterranean. With regard to abyssal fishes, these expeditions were somewhat barren in results.

¹ Staff Commander Tizard, R.N., and John Murray, Exploration of the Færøe Channel, during the summer of 1880 in H.M.'s hired ship "Knight Errant," *Proc. Roy. Soc. Edin.*, 1882.