
BATHYMETRICAL DISTRIBUTION.

SOME of the pelagic Tunicata in the Challenger collection are labelled as having been obtained in nets sent down to as much as over two thousand fathoms. But it is probably scarcely worth while recording these depths or drawing any conclusions from them, because in the absence of any means of opening and closing the mouth of the tow-net at will, so as to be able to collect from one particular stratum of water, it must be a matter of uncertainty where the specimens obtained in the net were really captured.

In the case of Station 318, where a tow-net was attached to the trawl and let down to a depth of 2040 fathoms, while another tow-net was used at the surface, the contents of the net were found to be the same in the two cases, consisting of:—

Several specimens of *Doliolum ehrenbergi*, Krohn;
and of *Doliolum* sp. (blastozoids).

So we may conclude either that the surface forms go down to a considerable depth, or that the deep tow-net captured its specimens on the way down or on the way up. Consequently, in the present state of our knowledge, the only deep-sea group belonging to these Tunicata discussed in the present part of the Report is the family Octacnemidae, including the genus *Octacnemus*, which is probably attached to the bottom, and has only been found at the depths of 1070 and 2160 fathoms.