

the elucidation of the same process in other Compound Ascidiæ, and an important memoir in Russian on their embryology by Ganin, appeared about the same time.

Giard's large work on the Ascidiæ Compositæ, published in 1872, added greatly to the knowledge of the group. It contained careful descriptions of a number of new forms, and the definitions and arrangements of the families and genera, many of which were new, formed welcome and much needed aids to classification.

Since that date most of the works upon the Tunicata have dealt either with the Simple Ascidiæ or with the Thaliacea, but Della Valle in Italy, and von Drasche in Austria, have done good service in describing new forms amongst the Compound Ascidiæ, and the last named author has published in his Synascidiæ of the Gulf of Rovigno, a series of probably the most beautiful and life-like plates of Compound Ascidiæ which have yet appeared. Della Valle has also contributed considerably to our knowledge of the processes of gemmation in the various groups of the Ascidiæ Compositæ, but this question will have to be gone into more in detail further on in the present work.

Lastly, the Challenger Expedition has added a large number of new forms to the list of Compound Ascidiæ previously known, and some of these, besides the interest attaching to them on account of the localities or the great depths at which they were collected, have remarkable anatomical peculiarities, which render their discovery of some importance in the history of the group.