

THE
VOYAGE OF H.M.S. CHALLENGER.

ZOOLOGY.

REPORT on the MARSENIADÆ collected by H.M.S. CHALLENGER during the
Years 1873-76. By DR RUDOLPH BERGH, Physician to the General
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INTRODUCTION.

THE family of the Marseniadæ has slowly gathered round the *Helix perspicua*, first defined by Linné in the tenth edition of his *Systema Naturæ*,¹ and the *Bulla latens* of O. Fr. Müller.² These forms, without an externally visible shell, were left for long unnoticed, until M. Sars³ recalled attention to *Bulla latens*, while Cuvier⁴ had meantime investigated a form nearly related to that mentioned by Ström and by Linné, and had described it under the name of *Sigaret*, which he borrowed from Adanson. A form at least congeneric (*Lamellaria tentaculata*) was described by the English naturalist Montagu,⁵ and referred by him to his genus *Lamellaria*. The resemblance, however, between the title bestowed by Montagu and the generic designation of a group of Algæ (*Laminaria*, Lamouroux), as also the fact that the name *Lamellaria* cannot be fitly applied to the first and typical section of Montagu's genus, led Leach to advocate the disuse of the term. About 1819, in the British Museum, and a year later in his *Synopsis*,⁶ he applied

¹ *Syst. Nat.*, 1758, ed. x. t. i. p. 775, No. 620.

² *Zool. Dan. prodr.*, 1776, p. 242, No. 2923.

³ M. Sars, *Beskriv. og Jagttag. over nogle mærkelige eller nye i Havet ved den Bergenske Kyst levende Dyr.* Bergen, 1835, p. 67 (*Isis*, 1837, p. 754 (*Sigaretus Stræmii*)).

⁴ *Bull. Soc. Philom. Paris*, Oct. 1799, No. 31, p. 32.—Sur l'Haliotide, le Sigaret, &c. (*Mém. sur les Moll.*, 1817, No. 18).

⁵ *Trans. Linn. Soc. Lond.*, 1811, vol. xi. p. 179.

⁶ The opinion of Herrmannsen (*Ind. Malacoz. primordia*, t. ii. p. 23) that Müller's *Bulla latens* should be the type of the genus, is really based only on the fact that this species was labelled *Marsenia latens* in the collection of northern Molluscs sent by H. Beck (*Museum Christiani viii.*) to the assembly of naturalists at Kiel in 1847.