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The Zoological descriptions and determinations, both in "The Depths of the Sea" and in this preliminary sketch of the proceedings of the Challenger, must be regarded as, to a certain extent, provisional. Some of the more remarkable and novel forms have been selected for illustration to give a general idea of the facies of deep-sea life; but the amount of new material is very large, and it will take some years of the patient work of many hands, with full access to libraries and collections, to bring it into order.

As in "The Depths of the Sea," the metrical system of measurement and the centigrade thermometer scale are employed in these volumes. In case the centigrade notation should not be familiar to all my readers, I introduce a comparative scale, embodying those of Fahrenheit, Celsius (Centigrade), and Réaumur, for reference.\*

With few exceptions, the illustrations are from drawings by Mr. J. J. Wild; and, as in the former volume, I have to give my best thanks to Mr.

<sup>\* 1°</sup> Fahrenheit = 0.55° C. = 0.44° R.

 $<sup>1^{\</sup>circ}$  Centigrade = 0.80° R. = 1.80° F.

 $<sup>1^{\</sup>circ}$  Réaumur =  $1.25^{\circ}$  C. =  $2.25^{\circ}$  F.