The voyage of the Challenger over and round the world, and her deep-sea exploration, are continued. Captain D'Archiac, who lately conducted the scientific portion of the Expedition has received the honour of knighthood, and whatever may be said in depreciation of that distinction, there are few to whom it could be more largely awarded, than to the great geographer, as Prof. Sir Wyllys Thomson. But, although the voyage is ended, and the members that composed the staff, both official, and connected with the naval and scientific, are scattered, the interest taken in the voyage has by no means diminished, and the issue of another Report by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, not only, almost, a return of the vessel, and since our last notice (No. 2509) the voyage has been completed from Japan; but, previous to its interesting excursion to an island which was made in the Inland Sea, the result of which was not very satisfactory, animal life not being very prolific.

On the 16th of June last year, the Expedition left Yokohama, and commenced sounding across the Pacific. As the United States Expedition, the Torororo, found, the depth is very great (nearly 1,000 fathoms) in the north of the Philippine Islands. In the distance of Japan, and then it varied between two and three thousand fathoms, and in the latitude 32° 20' N. In the month of July, the Expedition arrived at Honolulu, and commenced a fortnight, and then went to Hawaii, where an interesting excursion was made to the Volcano Kilauea. The vessel then proceeded to the Society Islands, diving a line of soundings, varying from 3,500 fathoms to 1,000 fathoms, on the way, the bottom temperature varying but little the whole distance, it being about 53°. On the 15th of September, the Challenger reached Tahiti. A visit was paid to Paua Venua, and the tamarind tree was planted here by Captain D'Archiac. After a pleasant stay of a fortnight, the Expedition proceeded on its voyage, making a south-eastern course from Tahiti to 40° S. On this section, a great interest is excited by the position and depth, being the north-west of the British Isles, illustrated by six statistical maps.

From the Sandwich Islands, the surface temperature gradually increased as the Sandwich Islands were approached, and the temperature of the water was affected to a depth of 200 fathoms; beneath this, the increased temperature appeared to have a very slight effect.

The Amphithite of the Challenger, discovered in the South Pacific, the best part, is not, at the time of these observations, almost identical with those obtained at 1,500 fathoms. In the fourteen series of temperature soundings taken, the difference was only 0.4°. On seven of these soundings, the depth of the water was only 1,500 fathoms, and from this it would appear probable that this portion of that ocean is cut off from the general system of communication with the Pacific by a submarine ridge connecting the two branches of the island chain of small islands, the Bonin, Ladrone, and Carolines, to the equator.

In the section from Japan, east to 135° W., eighteen deep soundings were obtained; in six of these, the temperatures were the same at the bottom and at 1,500 fathoms, and in the other twelve, they were higher at that depth than at the bottom, but the extreme difference of the bottom temperature varied only 0.4°, the mean temperature being 35°. At the depth of 1,500 fathoms the range was 1°, and the mean results nearly 35° the so that it may be concluded that the minimum temperature is at the bottom.

A third section in the South Pacific, or that between the parallel of 20° N. and the equator, shows the extreme difference of the bottom temperatures at 0°, and the mean reading 35°, and, at 1,500 fathoms, the mean reading is 0° 3° higher, enabling us to conclude that the temperature is at the bottom.

In the South Pacific, the isotherm of 10° N. is seen, and in the eastern part of the same ocean, or from 135° W., long. to Valparaiso, the minimum temperature was also found at the bottom, and, thererore, not on a continental or a submarine ridge from the polar waters to the depth ascertainment.

From the Admiralty Islands, for the distance of a thousand miles to the northward, a mass of water, exceeding 1,400 fathoms extends from the surface to a depth of from fifty to ninety fathoms; below this warm surface stratum, the temperature varied only 1° in eleven fathoms, until, at 300 fathoms, it was nearly constant at 45°. This isotherm was found at that depth from the Admiralty Islands; and, from this, the surface water gradually cooled, and the isotherm of 45° sank to 400 fathoms, whilst that of 40° was constant at 600 fathoms between the parallels of 3° and 4° N., this isotherm of 45° sank to 300 fathoms, lowering all the temperatures above it, but, adjacent the coast of Japio, it remained nearly constant, probably temporary water from the southward.

In the section running nearly east from Japan, the isotherms were found nearly parallel, excepting over a narrow belt of cold water.

In the north and south section to the Sandwich Islands, the surface temperature gradually increased as the Sandwich Islands were approached, and the temperature of the water was affected to a depth of 500 fathoms; beneath this, the increased temperature appeared to have a very slight effect.

From the Sandwich Islands to lat. 9° N. the isotherms rise slightly, and, at that latitude, are interrupted by a plateau of the same temperature, which has been noticed in the last year, after detailing the native accounts of its connexion with the Albert Nyanza, suggested that the passage might be blocked up by pyramidal islands, and other water obstacles, and that the consequence on the voyage to the upper Nile. Lient. Cameron's admirable journey has established the watershed to the west. It would be one of Africa's prime marvels if two of her great lakes be proved real to two completely different watersheds. Meanwhile we impatiently expect "more light."

Richard J. Burton.

Geographical Notes.

To the forthcoming number of the Geographical Journal will be published a sketch-map of the British Islands, containing those names which have become prominent through recent proceedings. It will also contain the continuation of Mr. Rees's elaborate paper on Migration within the British Isles, illustrated by six statistical maps.

Dr. Yakhish, of Belgrade, a great authority on the distribution and continental population of Europe, Turkey, and the Principalities at 3,000,000, of whom 3,000,000 are Slavs. Also to these latter 1,500,000 Servians and Montenegrins, and these latter 300,000 Shoshides, and the total population of 3,500,000. The number of Mambulians is estimated by the same authority at 3,500,000; and although these are inferior in number to the other two, their advantages are derived from holding the reins of power.

The alleged massacres of Bulgarians have led