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## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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Title: Specimens Collected by H.M.S. "Challenger"

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## REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

### Specimens Collected by H. M. S. "Challenger"

I am currently, with Dr. I. D. Wallace of Merseyside County Museums, investigating the fate of specimens collected by H. M. S. "Challenger (1872-1876). This pioneer circumnavigating expedition collected numerous marine organisms, sediment samples as well as occasional terrestrial biological and ethnographical specimens. Most material was eventually deposited at the British Museum where some 'duplicates' were later (1899-1900) redistributed to other institutions including the following:

Aberdeen, University  
Aberystwyth, University College  
Birmingham, Mason College  
Bristol, University  
Cambridge, University Museum  
Cardiff, University College  
Dundee, University College  
Dublin, Museum of Science and Art  
Edinburgh, Museum of Science and Art  
Leeds, University College  
Liverpool, Museums  
London, Royal College of Surgeons  
Manchester, Owens College Museum  
Newcastle, Museum  
Newcastle, Durham College of Science  
Perth, Perthshire Natural History Museum  
Sheffield, University College  
Sheffield, Public Museums  
Toronto, University  
Warrington, Museum  
Woking, Gordon Boys' Home  
Worcester, Hastings Museum  
Worcester, Victoria University

However these were not the only institutions to receive "Challenger" material as some items were obtained from experts identifying the specimens, members of the expedition crew or through subsequent re-dispersal from the original recipient institutions.

It is difficult to trace the movements of these specimens because of the number of individuals and institutions involved but I would be most grateful for any information on the present or past location of "Challenger" material if possible detailing the amount and type of material and how it was acquired.

Dr. P. F. Lingwood,  
c/o Merseyside County Museums,  
William Brown Street,  
Liverpool.

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Stauromedusae specimens

I would much appreciate the loan of any specimens for examination of any species of Stauromedusae (Haliclystus, Lucernaria etc) from U.K. or any other area, in connection with a revision of the world species of the Order and their distributions. I will of course return all specimens after examination and identification.

P. G. Corbin,  
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GOLDEN EAGLES AT BOLTON MUSEUM

The following extracts are from correspondence between the Museum and Betteridge, taxidermists of Birmingham, and show the unfortunate situation in which museums found themselves when wishing to acquire such specimens before bird protection legislation.