

gedrungen sind, betrifft dieser Wunsch. Auch sie wechseln, sei es den Titel, sei es den Ort ihrer Thätigkeit. Im Auslande wird aber ein derartiger Wechsel nicht so rasch bekannt, und in der Heimat wird es historisch stets von Interesse sein, wenn bei einem älteren Werke in der Überschrift der damalige Rang und Aufenthaltsort des Verfassers zu erkennen ist.

Dr. A. Grüber,

Prof. d. Zoologie in Freiburg i/B.

4. Zoological Society of London.

21st February, 1888. — Mr. A. THOMSON exhibited a series of insects reared in the Insect-house in the Society's Gardens during the past year, and read a report on the subject. — Prof. G. B. HOWES, F.Z.S., read a note on the azygos veins of the Anurons Amphibia. The author described an individual specimen of *Rana temporaria* in which the azygos vein (prerenal portion of the posterior cardinal) had been retained on one side, its relations differing in important details from that observed by Hochstetter in *Bombinator*. By way of supplementing that author's work, he had examined examples of a few genera not dealt with by Hochstetter. He recorded the presence of these veins in the only specimen of *Discoglossus* dissected, and in one of five individuals of *Alytes obstetricans* — facts which lent additional support to the views of Cope and Boulenger of the lowly affinities of the Discoglossidae. He had failed to detect these vessels in the *Aglossa*; while he regarded their total absence in *Pelobates* and *Pelodytes* as fresh evidence of the Pelobatoid rather than the Discoglossid affinities of the last-named genus. — Mr. A. SMITH-WOODWARD, F.Z.S., read the second part of his palaeontological contributions to Selachian morphology. The author described appearances of an open lateral line in a Cretaceous genus of Scylliidae, supported by half-rings, as in the Chimaeroids. He further noticed the pelvic cartilage of the Cretaceous *Cyclobatis*, pointing out and discussing the enormous proportions of the iliac process. — Mr. Oldfield THOMAS, F.Z.S., gave an account of the Mammals obtained by Mr. G. F. Gaumer on Cozumel and Ruatan Islands, Gulf of Honduras. — A second paper by Mr. THOMAS contained the description of a new and interesting annectent genus of Muridae, based on a specimen which had been in the Paris Museum for some years. This was supplemented with remarks on the relations of the Old- and New-World members of the family. — Dr. G. H. FOWLER exhibited and made some remarks on a new *Pennatula* from the Bahamas, the most interesting feature of which was the presence of immature anthozooids at the dorsal end of the leaves, devoid of tentacles, but possessing a well-marked siphonoglyphe on the stomatidaem which disappears with the increasing age of the polyp. The species was proposed to be named *Pennatula bellissima*. — P. L. SCLATER, Secretary.

5. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

25th January, 1888. — 1) On an extinct genus of the Marsupials allied to *Hypsiprymnodon*. By C. W. DE VIS, M.A. A full description is given of the lower jaw of an extinct marsupial found by Mr. R. Frost at King's Creek,

Queensland, for which the name *Trichis oscillans* is proposed. — 2) On the genus *Tetragonurus* of Risso. By Dr. Ramsay, F.R.S.E., and J. Douglas-Ogilby. The authors conclude that Mr. Macleay's species from Lord Howe Island is more closely allied to Lowe's *T. atlanticus* than to Risso's *T. Cuvieri*, and that if, as Günther asserts, these two names are synonymous, the species must be abnormally variable in its characters. The authors are, however, of opinion that an attempt to join species from such widely separated localities would, in the present state of our knowledge, be premature. — 3) On Australian Diptera. Part I. By F. A. A. Skuse. This paper, which is the first of a series of monographs of the families of Diptera, deals with the *Cecidomyiidae*, of which two new genera and ninety-two new species are described. In addition there is an introduction embodying a sketch of the present state of our knowledge of Australian Diptera and of the systematic arrangement of the group, together with an account of the terminology made use of. — 4) Contributions to Australian Oology. By A. J. North. Detailed descriptions are here given of the nests and eggs of *Eopsaltria capito*, Gld., *Stictoptera annulosa*, Gld., *Aeluroedus muculosus*, Rsy., and *Phaps histrionica*, Gld. — Mr. A. Sidney Olliff said he wished to call the attention of the members to the extraordinary abundance of *Belostoma inulicum*, St. Farg. & Serv. (specimens of which he exhibited), a gigantic water-scorpion belonging to the family Naucoridae. The insect had appeared in such numbers during the last few months in various parts of Sydney, that it attracted the attention of even the most unobservant. It was most frequently observed in well-lit places in the city, light evidently having a great attraction for it. Early in November as many as twenty had been picked up under one of the electric lamps at the Circular Quay, where they had fallen half-stunned after their vain efforts at suicide in the light above. Mr. Olliff also stated that lepidoptera were attracted by the electric light, although not in such numbers as by the ordinary gaslight; he had himself obtained *Danina Banksiae*, Lw., *Spilosoma fulvohirta*, W., *Heliothis armiger*, Hub., and *Idiodes apicuta*, Gn., during an hour's searching at the electric lamps on one of the shipping wharves at Darling Harbour. — Mr. J. Mitchell exhibited (a) the Trilobites from Bowning described by him in a paper read at the Society's meeting in July last (Proc. 1887, p. 435), (b) specimens of a new species of *Aeidaspis* to be described at next meeting, and (c) specimens of two or perhaps three species of Graptolites from the Bowning Beds at Bowning and Bell Vale, found since the exhibition of the somewhat less satisfactory specimens previously brought under the notice of the Society (Proc. 1886, p. 577), which, it may be remembered, were the first recorded from N.S.W. — Mr. T. Whitelegge exhibited a mounted slide of *Haliphysma ramulosa*, Bowerbank, a curious Foraminifer growing in erect tree-like tufts, its test composed of sand grains and sponge spicules. This was originally described as a sponge, but subsequent observations proved it to belong to the Foraminifera. Also two slides of Polyzoa, one being *Pellicellina echinata*, Sars, and the other a species of *Cylindrocium* closely allied to, if not identical with, *C. giganteum*, Busk. The whole were collected under stones at low tide in Middle Harbour, Port Jackson, and form interesting additions to our Marine Fauna.

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