

from beneath some deposits of nitrate in Southern Peru, transmitted to the Society by Prof. W. Nation, C.M.Z.S. — Mr. David Wilson Barker, F.Z.S., exhibited and made remarks on some specimens of *Teredos* taken from submarine telegraphic cables off the Brazilian coast. — Prof. F. Jeffrey Bell, F.Z.S., exhibited and made remarks on some living specimens of *Bipalium*, transmitted to the Society by the Rev. G. H. R. Fisk, C.M.Z.S., of Capetown. — A communication was read from Mr. R. Lydekker, F.Z.S., containing an account of a new species of extinct Otter from the Lower Pliocene of Eppelsheim. The author described part of the lower jaw, which he had previously referred to *Lutra dubia*, from the deposits indicated. Having, however, now seen a cast of the type of the latter, he found that the present specimen indicated a distinct species, for which the name *L. hessica* was proposed. — A communication was read from Prof. Bertram C. A. Windle and Mr. John Humphreys, on some cranial and dental characters of the Domestic Dog. The paper was based on the results of the measurements of a large number of Dogs' skulls of various breeds. Its object was to ascertain whether cranial and dental characteristics afforded sufficient information to permit of a scientific classification of the breeds, or would throw any light upon their origin. The conclusion so far arrived at was that interbreeding had been so extensive and complicated as to make it impossible to distinguish the various forms scientifically from the characters examined. Several points with regard to the shape of head and palate and the occasional occurrence of an extra molar were also touched upon. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.Z.S., read the fourth of his series of contributions to the Herpetology of the Solomon Islands. The present memoir gave an account of the last collection brought home by Mr. C. M. Woodford. Besides known species, this collection contained examples of a new Snake, proposed to be called *Hoplocephalus clapoides*. — A second paper by Mr. Boulenger contained a list of the Reptiles, Batrachians, and Freshwater Fishes collected by Professor Moesch and Mr. Iversen in the districts of Delhi and Langkat, in North-eastern Sumatra. — Dr. Günther, F.R.S., read a paper entitled „A Contribution to our Knowledge of British Pleuronectidae“. The author described the true *Arnoglossus Grohmanni*, a Mediterranean Scald-fish recently discovered by the Rev. W. S. Green on the Irish coast, and quite distinct from *Arnoglossus lophotes*. Dr. Günther also stated that the Mediterranean Lemon-Sole (*Solea lascaris*) was specifically identical with the British species (*Solea aurantiaca*), but was distinct from that of the Canary Islands and Madeira (*Solea scriba*); and gave it as his opinion that the Mediterranean *Solea lutea* and British *Solea minuta* cannot be separated by any constant character. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

## IV. Personal-Notizen.

### Necrolog.

Am 17. Januar 1890 starb in Warschau Dr. Wladislaus Taczanowski (geboren 1819 bei Lublin, Kgr. Polen), der bekannte Ornitholog und Arachnolog.

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