

ed by a short description of the trunk-arterial system. As regards the anatomy, Mr. Smith appeared to have worked out for the first time the comparative morphology of the skeletal muscles of the Monotremes as determined by their innervation. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F.R.S., read a paper upon certain points in the visceral anatomy of *Ornithorhynchus*. The paper dealt in the first place with the existence of a free fold passing from the bladder to the liver, where it became continuous with the falciform ligament of the liver. This fold, however, exhibited no traces of an anterior abdominal vein. The author also gave a description of the right auriculo-ventricular valve of the heart. In two hearts examined by him the septal flap of this valve was complete, though less conspicuous than the free flap, owing to the fact that it had either no papillary muscles attached to it or that the muscles were very small. — Mr. Boulenger read a »Second Report on Additions to the Lizard Collection in the Natural History Museum«. It contained a long list of species, previously unrepresented in the collection, specimens of which had been acquired since the appearance of the first Report, published in the »Proceedings« of the Society for 1890. This list was supplemented with the descriptions of several new species. — Prof. E. Jeffrey Bell called attention to the acquisition by the Natural History Museum of some specimens of remarkable Corals of great size from North-west Australia, of which he showed some admirable photographs taken by Mr. Percy Highley. Prof. Bell urged the necessity of the acquisition of large specimens of Corals, before coming to any conclusion as to their specific distinctions. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

November 28th, 1894. — 1) Redescription of *Aspidites ramsayi*, MacL. By Edgar R. Waite, F.L.S. — 2) A Review of the Fossil Jaws of the *Macropodidae* in the Queensland Museum. By C. W. De Vis, M.A. The very fine collection of over eleven hundred dissociated jaws or portions of jaws in the Queensland Museum has been studied in the light of a knowledge of the nature and range of the variations, individual and specific, presented by the skulls of 479 individuals referable to sixteen existing species. The following species are described as new:—*Palorchestes parvus*, *Sthenurus pales*, *S. oreas*. *Halmaturus vinceus*, *H. thor*, *H. dryas*, *H. odin*, *H. indra*, *H. siva*, *H. vishnu*, *Macropus magister*, *M. pan*, and *M. faunus*. — 3) Notes on some Land Planarians collected by Thos. Steel, Esq., on the Blue Mts., N.S.W. By A. Dendy, D. Sc., F.L.S. — 4) On a British Bivalve Mollusc found in Australia and Tasmania, with its Distribution; and on a new sub-genus of *Trochida*. By J. Brazier, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S. *Cryptodon flexuosa*, Montagu, is now recorded for the first time from Port Stephens, N.S.W., and Esperance Bay, Tasmania. The name *Solanderia*, Fischer (1880), being preoccupied by Duchassaing and Michelotti (1846), it is now proposed to replace it by *Rossiteria*. — 5) Description of a new Australian Eel. By J. Douglas Ogilby (Communicated by Edgar R. Waite, F.L.S.) *Gymnothorax prionodon*, sp.n., from Port Jackson, is closely allied to the Atlantic species *G. ocellatus*. — 6) On a new Typhlops previously confounded with *T. unguistrois*, Peters. By G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S. (Communicated by Edgar R. Waite, F.L.S.) — 7) Botanical. By J. H. Maiden. — 8) On a new species of *Enteropneusta* from the Coast of N.S.W. By James P. Hill, Demonstrator of Biology, Sydney University. The name *Ptychodera australiensis* is proposed

for the first described Australian species of *Enteropneusta*. It is specially characterised externally by the great development of the genital wings which completely hide the gill-area, and extend far into the hepatic region, and by the presence of two longitudinal epidermal stripes overlying the two ciliated bands of the intestine. In the mode of formation of the proboscis pore, it appears to be the most variable of all *Enteropneusta* hitherto described. The most interesting points in its internal anatomy are the presence of a median longitudinal infolding of the ventral wall of the heart bladder into the cavity of the same, the presence of a transverse vessel between the different proboscis vessels, and the much branched condition of the gonads. — 9) On a *Platypus* Embryo from the Intrauterine Egg. By J. P. Hill, Demonstrator of Biology, and C. J. Martin, M.B., B.Sc. (Lond.), Demonstrator of Physiology, in the University of Sydney. The embryo described was taken from one of two eggs just ready to be laid. The eggs measured 18 mm. by 13.5—being somewhat larger than the eggs described by Caldwell. The embryo was found lying on the surface of a thin-walled vesicle with its long axis corresponding to the long axis of the egg. It measured 19 mm. in length from the anterior end of the medullary plate to the posterior end of the primitive streak. The vesicle on which the embryo lay consisted of two layers all over, with the mesoderm extending about half-way round between and comparable to a typical mammalian blastodermic vesicle. The vesicle filled the whole of the egg, and contained a thin albuminous fluid together with a thin layer of yolk spheres next its wall. The embryo, with the exception of a slight head-fold, is quite flat. Medullary folds are absent except in the most anterior region of the future fore-brain, where slight lateral upgrowths of the medullary plate appear. The three cerebral vesicles are indicated, and in the region of the hind-brain four well-marked neuromeres exist. External to the 2nd, 3rd and 4th neuromeres is an extensive auditory plate, already slightly grooved. There are seventeen somites, which in the middle region of the trunk possess distinct cavities, and externally to these from the 4th to the 17th are situated the Anlagen of the Wolffian bodies. At the 7th somite Wolffian duct is first seen, the appearance of which in sections suggests an ectodermal origin. Double heart Anlagen are present, but there is no trace of vascular area besides a slight mottling in and around the area pellucida. A distinct blastopore is present with a neurenteric canal which runs through the head process and opens into the archenteron (yolk-sac cavity). The primitive streak extends behind the blastopore to a distance of 1.5 mm. The embryo more nearly resembles that of the Virginian Opossum (*Didelphys*) of 73 hours, described by Selenka, than any other embryo known to the authors. The *Platypus* embryo is, however, much longer. — Mr. A. Sidney Olliff sent for exhibition a number of specimens of a species of *Psylla* from Jarrahdale, W. Australia, which makes elongate, semi-transparent, horny, larval coverings, or tests, on the foliage of the Flooded Gum (*Eucalyptus rudis*). In structure and habits the species in closely related to *Psylla eucalypti*, Dobs., recorded from Tasmania; and economically it is of importance as it sometimes occurs in such numbers as to cause serious injury to its food-plant, a usefull West Australian timber. The insect was collected by Messrs. W. Paterson and A. Despeissis, and it is proposed by Mr. Olliff to call it *Psylla periculosa*. — Mr. Edgar R. Waite exhibited specimens of the snake *Aspidites ramsayi* described in his paper; a Golden Perch *Ctenolates*

ambiguus, Richardson, attacked by a fungus, *Saprolegnia ferax*, causing the so-called Salmon disease; and a small Mullet, *Mugil dolula*, Gunther, from the head of which a small seaweed was growing. It would appear as though the fish had sustained some damage in this part, as the scales are absent, and that the alga had rooted itself in the flesh. — Mr. A. G. Hamilton sent for exhibition a specimen of *Phascologale minutissima*, Gould, from Mt. Kembla, N.S.W., and he communicated a note on its occurrence in New South Wales, the species having previously come under his notice at Guntawang, near Mudgee. The distribution given in the B.M. Catalogue of Marsupialia and Monotremata (1888), is »Central and Southern Queensland« and »Clarence River, Moreton Bay«. — Mr. Steel exhibited specimens of eight species of Land Planarians in illustration of Dr. Dendy's paper.

4. Société Zoologique de France.

Am Donnerstag, 28. Februar, Abends 8 Uhr findet unter dem Vorsitz des Prof. Léon Vaillant eine allgemeine Versammlung statt (7, rue des Grands Augustins), welcher am 4. März, Montag, ein Banquet (zu 12 Frs.) folgen wird. Die Theilnehmer erhalten, wenn sie sich sofort beim General-Secretair, Prof. R. Blanchard (32, rue du Luxembourg) melden, auf den französischen Bahnen eine 50%ige Ermäßigung des Fahrpreises. Am Mittwoch, 27. Februar, findet die jährliche allgemeine Versammlung der Société Entomologique de France statt, welcher am Sonnabend, 2. März, ein Banquet folgen wird.

5. Commercial Museum, Philadelphia.

Der ehemalige argentinische Forschungsreisende, derzeitiger Organisator des neuen Handelsmuseums in Philadelphia, hat den Auftrag, die Sammlungen der öffentlichen Museen dieser Stadt durch Entgegennahme von Schenkungen und durch Tausch und Ankauf zu vervollständigen, und bittet unsere Leser, ihm Offerten von Objekten und ganzen Sammlungen, welche in das Gebiet der Ethnographie, der Archäologie, der Naturwissenschaft, des Handels und der Pädagogie gehören, möglichst bald unter der Adresse: Gustav Niederlein, pr. Adr. Centralverein für Handelsgeographie, Berlin W, Lutherstraße 5, gefälligst zu übersenden.

6. Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft.

Die fünfte Jahresversammlung findet nach dem Beschlusse der vorjährigen

zu Straßburg i. E.

und zwar in der Pfingstwoche (zwischen 4. und 8. Juni) statt.

Referate werden erstatten:

Herr Prof. Goette: Über den Ursprung der Wirbelthiere.

Herr Dr. Bürger: Über Nemertinen.

Vorträge haben bis jetzt angemeldet:

Herr Prof. Blochmann (Thema vorbehalten).

Herr Prof. v. Graff: Über Landplanarien.

Anmeldungen von weiteren Vorträgen sowie Demonstrationen erbittet der unterzeichnete Schriftführer.

Prof. J. W. Spengel (Gießen).

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1895

Band/Volume: [18](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonymous

Artikel/Article: [3. Linnean Society of New South Wales 30-32](#)