Trias. — A second paper by Dr. J. W. Gregory related to the classification of the Palaeozoic Ophiurids. — A communication was read from the Rev. O. Pickard Cambridge, F.R.S., containing descriptions of four new or little-known Spiders (Araneidea) from Ceylon, Borneo, and South America. — A communication from Dr. Robert O. Cunningham related to the occurrence of a pair of supernumerary bones in the skull of a Lemur, and to a peculiarity which he had noted in the skull of a young Orang. — A communication was read from Dr. Alph. Dubois, C.M.Z.S., in which he gave the description of a new African Trogon from Lake Tanganyika, proposed to be named *Hapaloderma rufiventris*. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. New York Academy of Science, Biological Section.

December 14, 1896. — Dr. Arnold Graf made a preliminary report on "Some New Fixing Fluids." — Mr. J. H. McGregor, read a paper entitled "An Embryo of *Cryptobranchus*." The embryo described is about 16 millimetres long, and is the first to be recorded of this species. Prominent among its external features are the excessive amount of yolk, the marked ventral flexure in the cervical region and the very early and almost simultaneous appearance of the two pairs of limbs. The dorsal surface is pigmented, the pigment cells being arranged in transverse bands, one band over each metamere of the body. Lateral line sense-organs can be distinguished. Among the most striking internal characters may be mentioned the dorso-ventral flattening of the notochord, the late appearance of entoderm and alimentary organs generally,—due doubtless to the great mass of the yolk. The primordial skull is unusually well developed. The auditory vescicle has an endolymphatic duct ending blindly immediately under the skin on the top of the head. Along the sides of the body a system of organs occurs which are probably homologous with the embryonic sense-organs described by Beard in the sharks. — Dr. J. L. Wortman spoke of the "*Ganodonta*" a new and primitive suborder of the Edentata from the Eocene of North America. One section or family of the suborder, viz.: the Stylinodontidae, is composed of *Hemiganus*, *Psittacotherium*, *Ectoganus* and *Stylinodon* and forms a closely connected and consecutive phylum — reaching from the base of the Puerco to the Bridger formation and leading directly to the Gravigrada or ground sloths. A second family, viz.: the *Conoryctidae*, composed of *Conoryctes* and *Onychodectes* may be regarded as ancestral to the Armadillos. The character and origin of the Edentate fauna of South America was discussed at length and the conclusion reached that its original home was in North America. It was further held that there was a migration to the southward before the close of the Eocene and that there must have then been an early land connection between the two continents. — C. L. Bristol, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

November 25th, 1896. — 1) On the Comparative Anatomy of the Organ of Jacobson in Marsupials. By R. Broom, M.D., B.Sc. A study of the general anatomy and relation of Jacobson's Organ in representatives of twelve genera has been made, and in most cases at different stages of development. The examination of the different varieties of structure affords evi-

dence, it is believed of some value, on the question of the classification of the Order.—(2) 3) and 4) Botanical.)—5) On some Australian Gudgeons (*Eleotridinae*). By J. Douglas Ogilby. In this paper the author insists on the necessity of splitting up the genus *Eleotris*, and proposes four new genera, taking as his types Krefft's well known species, as follows: — *Carassiops*, g. n. for *compressus*; *Krefftius*, g. n. for *australis; Mulgoa*, g. n. for *Coxii*; and *Ophiorrhinus*, g. n. for *grandiceps*. Full descriptions are given of five species, viz., *C. Longi*, sp. n., *K. australis*, *M. Coxii*, *O. grandiceps*, and *O. nudiceps*. Incidentally the author gives much interesting information regarding the fish-life to be found in the waterholes of the metropolitan county. — 6) Descriptions of some new *Araneidae* of New South Wales, No. 7. By W. J. Rainbow. Three new spiders are described and figured, viz., *Epëira coronata* (♀), *Pachy[g]natha superba* (♀), and *Attus splendens* (♂).—7) Contributions to a knowledge of the Arachnidan Fauna of Australia. No. 1. By W. J. Rainbow. This paper, the first of a new series, is descriptive of a new scorpion (*Buthus flavicrurus*) from Como, obtained by Mr. J. D. Ogilby.—(8) Botanical.) — 9) Description of a new Species of Pupina from Queensland. By C. E. Beddome.—10) Revision of the Genus *Paropsis*. Part i. By Rev. T. Blackburn, B.A., Corr. Mem.—11) The Silurian Trilobites of New South Wales, with references to those of other parts of Australia. Part iv. The *Odontopleuridae*. By R. Etheridge, Junr., and John Mitchell.—Mr. Edgar R. Waite exhibited a lizard, *Nephrurus laevis*, De Vis, received by the Australian Museum some months ago. Suspecting that its characters were common to both *N. laevis* and *N. platyurus*, Blgr., Mr. Waite examined the type of the former species, kindly lent by Mr. De Vis, when it became apparent that the two descriptions applied to the same species—a conclusion in accordance with the views of Messrs. Lucas and Frost, from the examination of a series of specimens from Central Australia. ("Report of the Horn Expedition." ii. p. 116). The exhibited specimen was shown to record a locality intermediate between the known habitats, Queensland and South Australia, the example having been obtained at Bathurst, New South Wales.—Some varieties of Australian Mollusca were shown by Mr. Hedley. On behalf of Mr. Whitelegge an example was exhibited of *Pleurobranchaea luniceps*, Cuvier, collected by him at Maroubra Bay. Though this remarkable species, apparently a pelagic form, was described in 1817, so little is known about it that its exact locality has not been before announced. Mr. Pilsbry writing on this form in the present year [Man. Conch. 1) xvi p. 229], proposes for it the subgeneric name *Euselenops*, in lieu of *Neda* preoccupied in the Coleoptera.—By the courtesy of the Curator of the Australian Museum Mr. Hedley further exhibited examples of *Monodonta Zeus*, Fischer, a series described without locality in the Journ. de Conch. 1874, p. 372. Dr. Fischer's shrewd guess that it was of Australian origin is for the first time confirmed by the receipt of instances collected by Mr. Moore at Dongara, near the mouth of the Irwin River, West Australia. In the same parcel were also *Monodonta carbonaria*, Philippi, and *Haliotis elegans*, Kock, both noteworthy and of interest as extending the geographical range of these shells.—Mr. Ogilby exhibited for Dr. Cox a small sole received from Mr. J. K. Larner, caught in fresh water about 58 miles above the mouth of the Richmond River; he identifies it with *Aserragodes macleayanus*, Ramsay, which had previously been recorded from fresh water in the Hunter River

as *Solea fluviatilis*, Ramsay. — Mr. Brazier read a Note on the Molluscs found in Aboriginal Kitchen Middens at Bondi Bay. He also exhibited a fine specimen of *Cypraea vitellus*, Linn., of unusual coloration, dredged alive at Little Coogee; and a perfect specimen of the shell described at the July Meeting as *Clathurella Waterhousae*, which must now be referred to the genus *Cantharus*, the lip of the type specimen having been broken. — Mrs. Kenyon sent for exhibition a series of specimens of *Conus rutilus*, Menke, *C. Macleayana*, T. Woods, and five varieties, *C. Smithi*, Angas, *C. Grayi*, Reeve, *C. maculatus*, Sowb., and *C. Anemone*, Lam., with young and distorted examples of the same; and communicated a Note thereon. — Mr. Darley communicated some interesting particulars as to the reported occurrence of *Teredo* and Rock Oyster for the first time at the mouth of the Gippsland Lakes about four years ago, whereas previously both were said to be unknown in the locality. — Dr. Norton communicated a Note recording an instance in which an ant-resembling spider was observed to attack fatally one of the community in a nest of the so-called bull-dog ants.

4. Exposition internationale de Bruxelles en 1897. Section des Sciences.

Bruxelles, le 20 décembre 1896. — »L'Exposition internationale qui doit s'ouvrir à Bruxelles en 1897, comprendra une Section internationale des Sciences divisée en sept classes: Mathématiques et Astronomie, Physique, Chimie, Géologie et Géographie, Biologie, Anthropologie et Bibliographie. Divers avantages sont accordés aux participants, qui n'auront notamment rien à payer pour les emplacements, et jouiront de réductions de taxes sur les transports par chemin de fer.«

»A l'occasion de cette Exposition, le Gouvernement belge a mis au concours des séries de questions (Desiderata et Questions de concours), en affectant des primes en espèces aux meilleures solutions. Parmi ces concours, il s'en trouve un certain nombre formulés par la Section des Sciences et jouissant d'un ensemble de primes s'élevant à 20000 francs.«

»Des brochures contenant de plus amples explications sont à la disposition de tous ceux qui en feront la demande au Commissariat général du Gouvernement, 17, rue de la Presse, à Bruxelles.«

5. Königliche Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Turin.

Programm für den elften Bressa'schen Preis.

Die K. Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Turin macht hiermit, den testamentarischen Willensbestimmungen des Dr. Caesar Alexander Bressa und dem am 7. December 1876 veröffentlichten diesbezüglichen Programme gemäß, bekannt, daß mit dem 31. December 1896 die Preisbewerbung für die im Laufe des Quadrienniums 1893—96 abgefaßten wissenschaftlichen Werke und in diesem Zeitraume gemachten Erfindungen, zu welchem nur italienische Gelehrte und Erfinder berufen waren, geschlossen worden ist. Zugleich erinnert die Akademie, daß vom 1. Januar 1895 an die Bewerbung für den elften Bressa'schen Preis eröffnet ist, zu welchem, dem Willen des Stifters entsprechend, die Gelehrten und Erfinder aller Nationen zugelassen werden.