

stellte sich heraus, daß der Name *Apus* noch älter sei als *Micropus*, und ich mußte Micropodidae in Apodidae ändern. Da zeigte sich, daß *Apos* (für den Kiefenfuß) älter sei als *Apus* (für den Segler), und daß man von *Apos* ebenfalls Apodidae zu bilden habe. Da sollte ich die Familie (sehr schön) Macropterygidae nennen. Nun aber trennen einige Ornithologen meine Unterfamilie Macropteryginae als Familie ab, die also dann Macropterygidae heißen muß, während die unseligen eigentlichen Segler schon wieder keinen Namen haben! Gut, nehmen wir den Namen *Aëronautes* und nennen sie Aëronautidae. Amerikanische Ornithologen jedoch erkennen meine Gattung *Aëronautes* nicht an, müssen also zum Namen *Claudia* greifen und Claudiidae bilden, wer aber die Gattung *Claudia* nicht anerkennt (und es giebt solche), muß wieder noch einen Namen bilden! Und so fort! Wie viel vernünftiger ist es da doch, beim ältesten Namen Cypselidae zu bleiben. Warum sollen die Namen der Familien und Unterfamilien nicht gleiches Recht mit denen der höheren Gruppen und denen der Gattungen, Arten, Unterarten und Aberrationen haben? Welch logischer Grund liegt dafür vor? — Gar keiner!

Tring (England) Januar 1897.

## II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

### 1. Zoological Society of London.

19th January, 1897. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of December 1896. — The Secretary exhibited a set of seven slightly enlarged photographs, illustrating the manner in which the Rough-keeled Snake (*Dasypeltis scabra*) swallows an egg. These had been taken from a living specimen in the Society's Gardens by Mr. R. F. Nesbit, by whom they had been presented to the Society. The specimen from which the photographs had been taken, measuring about 28 inches in length, was also exhibited. — The Secretary also exhibited a specimen of the Cerastes Viper (*Cerastes cerutus*), which had been received in exchange from the Zoological Gardens, Ghizeh, Egypt, and had lately died in the Gardens. This was the specimen, with false horns made of hedgehog spines, which had been alluded to in the newspapers of the last few weeks. On examination it was found that one of the spines had been driven through the skull into the mouth of the Snake, and this had probably caused its death. — Mr. Sclater exhibited a photograph of a young Anteater (*Myrmecophaga jubata*) two days old, born in the Zoological Garden of Herr Adolf Nill at Stuttgart. Mr. Sclater remarked that this was the first instance, so far as he knew, of this animal having bred in captivity. — Lord Walsingham, F. R. S., read a paper entitled "A Revision of the West-Indian Microlepidoptera, with Descriptions of new Species". This memoir gave a complete catalogue of all the species of Microlepidoptera

known to occur in the West-Indian Islands. This new edition of a former paper by Lord Walsingham, published in the 'Proceedings' for 1891, had been rendered necessary by the acquisition of much new material since that date, and by the publication of Mr. Meyrick's new system of classification, which in the main had been confirmed by the author from independent study. The species enumerated were 298 as compared with 132 in the former list, and the number of new genera characterized was 18. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F. R. S., read some notes on the anatomy of the Manatee (*Manatus inunguis*) lately living in the Society's Gardens. — Dr. Lindsay Johnson read a paper "On the Ophthalmoscopic Appearances of the Fundus Oculi in the Primates". Dr. Johnson had for some considerable time past devoted himself to the careful examination of the eyes of animals, using the means commonly employed by oculists when examining the human eye. He had found that the back of the eye when viewed with the ophthalmoscope presented different appearances in various animals. He showed that the eye of the negro only differed from that of the European in colour, that the higher apes closely resembled man in having binocular vision, and alone had the so-called *macula lutea*, or yellow spot, which is the seat of acute vision. In the Lemurs and Galagos the back of the eye differed entirely from that of the true monkeys, showing no *macula*. The Galagos, which are night animals, had instead of a red or brown fundus a brilliant golden-yellow back-ground to the eye. The paper was illustrated by a large number of coloured drawings. — Mr. Lydekker described certain deer of the *Cervus sica* group, living in the Duke of Bedford's Menagerie at Woburn. Three of these he referred to *C. hortulorum*, Swinhoe, a species which had hitherto been regarded as inseparable from *C. manchuricus*. This latter appeared to be only a larger race of *C. sica*; *C. Dybowskii* being also inseparable. *C. mandarinus*, Milne-Edwards, was a distinct form, as was also the Formosan *C. taëvanus*. — A communication was read from Mr. Guy A. K. Marshall, F. Z. S., on the Butterflies of the genus *Teracolus*. The geographical distribution of the genus was described, and seventy-two species were enumerated, two of which were described as new. — P. L. Selater, *Secretary*.

### III. Personal-Notizen.

Dr. A. Looss erbittet eventuelle Zusendungen bis auf Weiteres unter Adresse:

Cairo, École de médecine.



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