

was read from Dr. A. G. Butler, F.Z.S., on a collection of Butterflies made at Salisbury, Mashonaland, in 1898, by Mr. Guy A. K. Marshall. The collection contained specimens of sixty-five species, which were enumerated. Two new genera (*Torynesis* and *Tarsocera*) and one new species (*Aslanga Marshalli*) were described in the paper. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., read a third report on the additions to the Lizard Collection in the Natural History Museum, containing a list of this class (165 in number), new or previously unrepresented, of which specimens had been added to the collection since 1894. The following new species were described:—*Phyllodactylus siamensis*, *Anolis curtus*, *Diploglossus nuchalis*, *Varanus brevicauda*, *Arthroseps* (gen. nov.) *Wernerii*, *Lygosoma aignanum*, *L. Alfredi*, and *L. gastrostigma*. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

September 28th, 1898. — Mr. W. W. Froggatt exhibited a twig from a fruit-tree obtained near Sydney which had 150 eggs of an undetermined grasshopper attached to it in a double row; also a number of the newly hatched young insects. These were of interest because of their remarkable resemblance to a common ant (*Iridomyrmex purpureus*, Sm.), which is plentiful in the orchards and bush about Sydney, hunting over the trees for food. It seems probable that this may be a case of protective mimicry, the grasshoppers perhaps being protected against the attacks of insectivorous birds, and the ants also deceived. Brunner has described a remarkable little *Phaneropterid* from the Soudan under the name of *Myrmecophana fallax* which is very like the insect exhibited. In Brunner's species the under part of the base of the abdomen is white, so that the grasshopper looks as if it had a stalked abdomen when viewed from the side. As the insect was wingless and without an ovipositor, it may have been immature like those exhibited. — Mr. J. Mitchell, of Newcastle, forwarded a brief note announcing his discovery of the print of an insect's wing in the shale overlying the Yard Seam of coal at the base of Flagstaff Hill, Newcastle. There was, he believed, no previous record of the presence of insect remains in rocks of the Permo-Carboniferous Age in New South Wales. He hoped to be able to exhibit the specimen at a future meeting. — Mr. Palmer exhibited a living Gecko, *Gymnodactylus platyrurus*, White, and a large snake, *Diemenia superciliosa*, Fischer, from the Blue Mountains. Also, from the Mountains, plants of two species of *Xerotes* (N.O. *Juncaceae*) with harsh cutting or wiry foliage, eaten down by stock, to show the inhospitable kind of fodder to which, under stress of circumstances, the mountain cattle become habituated, and upon which they manage to maintain themselves. Cattle brought from the lowlands do not, however, all at once or readily take kindly to such apparently unpromising forage plants.

October 26th, 1889. — 1) On *Carabidae* from West Australia, sent by Mr. A. M. Lea (with Descriptions of new Genera and Species, Synoptic Tables, &c.) By Thomas G. Sloane. The collection reported on comprises 134 species, of which 33 are described as new. The specimens were obtained in two widely separated districts, South-west Australia and the neighbourhood of Champion Bay, and the East Kimberley District. — 2) Descriptions of new Species of Australian Coleoptera. Part. v. By Arthur M. Lea. — 3) Bota-

nical. — Mr. Froggatt exhibited leaves of a *Banksia* covered with the hairy tests of the larvae of an Homopterous insect of the family Aleyrodidae, the remarkable white filaments forming a hairy coat over the leaves. — Mr. North exhibited the skin of a fledgling Fan-tailed Cuckoo, *Cacomantis flabelliformis*, which he had caught on the 3rd instant in a gully at Chatswood. It was being fed by its foster-parents, a pair of Rock Warblers, *Origma rubricata*, whose nest was found in a dark recess in the rocks a few feet away. Usually the egg or young of this parasite is found in domed nests built in situations which are more or less exposed to the sun's rays. That it is not a solitary instance of this Cuckoo depositing its egg in the nest of this gloom-loving species is borne out by the fact that the same pair of Rock Warblers built again in a rocky chamber about two hundred yards away from their previous nesting site. On the 15th instant, and before the nest was quite finished, it contained an egg of *C. flabelliformis*, and on the 25th instant two eggs of *O. rubricata*, all of which were slightly incubated. This set of eggs was also exhibited. — Dr. Cox showed a fine specimen of, and communicated a Note on, *Voluta Bednalli*, Brazier, from Port Darwin, of which, as far as he knew, the specimen exhibited was the third example known, though the species was described in 1878. — Dr. Cox also contributed a Note on *Thersites pachystyla*, Pfr., var. *subfusco-zonata*, var. nov., from Queensland; and he exhibited an illustrative series of specimens, adult and young. — Dr. Cox also exhibited very fine specimens of what he looked upon as varieties of *Thersites bipartita*, Férussac, smaller than typical specimens, with the base very dark, and with a very dark, rather narrow band running parallel with the suture, the lip of the shell also inclined to a carnelian-pink. These specimens might lead off to what had been described as *Thersites Beddomei*, Braz., but the shell in question was found with larger specimens which gradually passed into the typical form. To illustrate the genus a large typical pair of *T. bipartita* were exhibited, with a pair of the same quite devoid of a dark base or coloured sutural band; also a pair subangulate at the periphery of the last whorl, from Cairns, and of large size; likewise a pair of the same of smaller size, very much resembling in colour, &c., the smaller forms of *Nanina ovum* from the Phillipine Islands; and two pairs of a smaller variety, and much more depressed than the type, which appeared to be referable to *T. Dunkiensis*, Forbes; also examples of *T. semicastanea*, and of *T. Bellendenkerensis*. — Mr. Rainbow exhibited specimens of two interesting spiders from the neighbourhood of Sydney, one (*Ariamnus flagellum*, Dolesch.) a long whip-like Theridion, the other (*Leptorchestes striatipes*, L. Koch) an ant-resembling Attid; and he communicated a Note on their characteristics and habits.

III. Personal-Notizen.

Necrolog.

Am 30. October starb in Magdeburg Prof. Dr. Paul Kramer, Provinzial-Schulrath, der bekannte Acaridolog.

Am 17. November starb in Rom Prof. Achille Costa, Director des R. Museo Zoologico di Napoli.

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Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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