

Auch der »Advertiser« enthält heute Morgen folgendes Telegramm aus Sydney:

»With reference to the cablegram recently published stating that the British Association at Montreal have received intelligence from Messrs. Caldwell and Liversedge, announcing important mammalian discoveries in Australia, it may be stated that Mr. Caldwell is a distinguished scientific investigator, and is at present engaged in Queensland conducting investigations into the relations between mammals and birds. Professor Liversedge of the Sydney University, recently cabled on behalf of Mr. Caldwell to the British Association at Montreal, to the effect that he had settled the question that the Platyptus and Echidna, or hedgehog, are egg-producing, and not merely viviparous, as are ordinary mammals. In other words, they are more nearly related to birds and lizards and other egg-producing animals than to ordinary mammals.«

Es kann mich nur freuen, daß meine Entdeckung eine so unerwartet schnelle Bestätigung erfahren hat.

Adelaide, den 8. September 1884.

4. Note on the presence of an allantoic (anterior abdominal) vein in *Echidna*.

By F. E. Beddard, M.A. Prosector to the Zoological Society of London.

eingeg. 13. November 1884.

The dissection of a specimen of *Echidna* which recently died in the Zoological Society's Gardens has brought to light an interesting fact in its structure which has not apparently been recorded in any Mammal¹, that is the presence of an allantoic (anterior abdominal) vein arising from a capillary plexus on the bladder and passing forwards in close contact with the abdominal wall of the body to the left lobe of the liver.

The position origin and termination of this vessel is precisely that met with in the Amphibia and Reptilia save for the absence of any communication with the veins of the hind limbs; and there appears to be little doubt that this vein in *Echidna* is really homologous with the anterior abdominal vein of the lower Vertebrata. This is another among the many ancestral characters displayed in the organisation of the Monotremata; it is perhaps important to note that *Echidna* agrees with

¹ Balfour (Comparative Embryology Vol. 2, p. 541) says: »The venous system of ... mammals differs in two important points from that of Amphibia and Reptilia. Firstly the anterior abdominal vein is only a foetal vessel forming during foetal life the allantoic vein« etc.

the Amphibia and differs from the Lacertilia that the left of the primitively two allantoic vessels instead of the right is persistent.

I hope shortly to publish a somewhat fuller notice of this fact in the Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London.

III. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

4th November, 1884. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the months of June, July, August, and September 1884, and called attention to certain interesting accessions which had been received during that period. Amongst these were specially noted two Red-cheeked Colies (*Colius erythromelon*), purchased June 12th; two Chaplain Crows (*Corvus capellanus*), from Fao, Persian Gulf, presented June 25th by B. T. Ffinch, Esq.; a second specimen of the Heloderm Lizard (*Heloderma suspectum*), received in exchange from the Central-Park Menagerie, New York, U.S.A., July 3rd; a collection of Snakes from Japan and North America, brought home and presented to the Society by Gerald Waller, Esq., F.Z.S., July 22nd, amongst which were representatives of five species new to the Collection; a young female Cape Sea-Lion (*Otaria pusilla*) from South Africa, presented to the Society by Capt. John Hewat, Superintendent of the Docks, Cape Town, July 25th; and a Fringed Gecko (*Platydactylus homalocephalus*) and six Black-spotted Toads (*Bufo melanostictus*) from Java, presented to the Society by Dr. F. H. Bauer, C.M.Z.S. — Mr. Slater exhibited and made remarks on the skin of a Woolly Cheetah (*Felis lanca*), obtained at Beaufort West, South Africa, sent to him by the Rev. G. H. R. Fisk, C.M.Z.S. — The Secretary exhibited, on behalf of Major W. Brydon, B.S.C., C.M.Z.S., an egg of Blyth's Tragopan; and on behalf of Mr. J. C. Parr, F.Z.S., a specimen of the chick of the Vulturine Guinea-fowl (*Numida vulturina*) hatched in Lancashire. — The Rev. H. H. Slater, F.Z.S., exhibited a specimen of the Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*) obtained on the Yorkshire coast. — Mr. H. E. Dresser, F.Z.S., exhibited specimens of the Barred Warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*) and of the Icterine Warbler (*Hypolais icterina*), killed in Norfolk. — Mr. W. B. Tegetmeier, F.Z.S., exhibited a specimen of the Filefish (*Balistes capriscus*), which had been recently caught off Folkestone. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F.Z.S., read a paper on the anatomy of a gigantic Earthworm, *Microchaeta Rappii*, and pointed out its systematic position. For this very interesting specimen the author was indebted to the Rev. G. H. R. Fisk, C.M.Z.S., of Cape Town. — Mr. A. G. Butler, F.Z.S., gave an account of a collection of Lepidoptera made by Major J. W. Yerbury at or near Aden. The author looked upon this collection as one of the greatest interest, since it not only contained a fine series of the beautiful species of *Teracolus* recently described by Col. Swinhoe, but also many remarkable intergrades between certain long-established species, tending to prove either that hybrids between allied species are fertile, or that in Aden a condition of things still exists which in Asia proper and in Africa has long passed away. — A communication was read from Lieut.-Col. C. Swin-

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1884

Band/Volume: [7](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Beddard Frank Evers

Artikel/Article: [4. Note on the presence of an allantoic \(anterior abdominal\) vein in Echidna 653-654](#)