

versal tendency amongst the Arctoidea to the definition of a distinct and conspicuous lozenge shaped patch of brain substance defined by the crucial and precrucial sulci. This condition which he found in no single non-arc-toid Carnivora, he also found in the brain of *Otaria Gillespii* and afterwards in *Phoca vitulina* where it is very small and much hidden. This fact he adduced as an important argument in favour of the view that the Pinnipedia were evolved from some Arctoid, probably Ursine form of Land Carnivora. — In illustration of Ornithological Notes Mr. Thos. E. Gunn showed an interesting series, in varied plumage, of the somewhat rare British Blue-throated Warbler (*Ruticilla suecica* L.). The examples in question were procured by Mr. G. E. Power at Cley on the Norfolk Coast in September last. Mr. Gunn also exhibited an immature female specimen of the Little Bittern (*Botaurus minutus*) shot at Broxburne Bridge, Herts, on 15th Oct.; as likewise a hybrid between a cock Goldfinch and hen Bullfinch, which possessed the marked characteristics of both parents. — J. Murie.

2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

26th November, 1884. — 1. On a New and Remarkable instance of Symbiosis. By William A. Haswell, M.A., B.Sc. *Phoronis australis* found by the author in Port Jackson, and briefly described in a preliminary note in the Proceedings of this Society (Vol. 7, p. 606), forms colonies, the individuals of which inhabit chambers or tubes in a common soft matrix formed of fine felted filaments. The whole colony grows round a large Sea-Anemone in such a way as to form a complete tube for it, the *Phoronis* doubtless profiting by the action of the thread-cells in the tentacles of the Anemone, in killing or stunning any minute organisms that come in contact with them. — 2. On the Pycnogonidae of the Australian Coast, with descriptions of New Species. By William A. Haswell, M.A., B.Sc. In this Paper which is a review of all the Australian species seven New Species are described — *Nymphon validum*, and *aequidigitatum*: *Nymphopsis armatus*, a new genus and species; *Ammothea longicollis* and *assimilis*; *Colossendeis tenuissima* and *Phoxichilidium tubiferum*. — 3. Notes on the Port Jackson Crustacea. By Charles Chilton, B.A. Some New Species are here described, and observations are made on the sexual and other peculiarities characterising certain genera. — 4. Descriptions of Australian Micro-Lepidoptera. By E. Meyrick, B.A. No. XII. Oecophoridae (Continued). This paper continues the *Oecophoridae*, as far as the genus *Ocystola*; fifty additional species are described, of which forty-six are new to science. — 5. A Monograph of the Australian Sponges. Part III. By R. v. Lendenfeld, Ph.D. The author gives a complete description of the known Australian species of Calcareous Sponges, 52 in number. To the species described by Carter, Hæckel, Poléjaeff and Ridley, numerous new ones are added. A new classificatory system is established in this Paper. The Calcispongiae as an Order are divided into Poléjaeff's two Suborders, the meaning of which has however, been slightly changed. To Hæckel's three Families and Carter's Teichonidae, three new Families are added. The classification appears as follows:

Ordo. Calcispongia. Spongiae with Calcareous Skeleton.

I. Subordo Homocoela. Calcispongiae without differentiated Entoderm.

1. Familia. *Asconidae*. Homocoela with simple gastral cavity, 8 species.
2. Familia. *Homodermidae*. Homocoela with Radial tubes, 1 species (connected with *Asconidae* by *Ascallis canariensis* and *Lamarekii*). Transition form between *Asconidae* and *Syconidae*.
3. Familia. *Leucopsidae*. Homocoela with a highly developed Mesoderm, in which the sac-shaped stomachs of the colonial individuals are imbedded. 1 species. Possibly a transition form between *Asconidae* and *Leuconidae*.
- II. Subordo. *Heterocoela*. Calcispongiae, the Entoderm of which is differentiated into pavement- and flagellate cells.
4. Familia. *Syconidae*. Heterocoela with sac-shaped radially disposed ciliated chambers, opening directly into the gastral cavity.
- I. Subfamilia. *Syconinae*. *Syconidae* with terminally free, simple, ciliated tubes. 7 species.
- II. Subfamilia. *Uteinae*. *Syconidae* with simple ciliated tubes joined terminally by a cortex. 6 species.
- III. Subfamilia. *Grantinae*. *Syconidae* with ramified ciliated tubes. 3 species.
5. Familia. *Sylleibidae*. Heterocoela with sac-shaped ciliated chambers, which are connected with the gastral cavity by a system of exhalant canals.
- I. Subfamilia. *Vosmaerinae*. *Sylleibidae*, the ciliated chambers of which form a simple cylindrical layer (*Leucetta* Pol.) 3 species.
- II. Subfamilia. *Poleinae*. *Sylleibidae*, the ciliated chambers of which lie in a folded plane. (*Leucilla* Pol.) 1 species.
6. Familia. *Leuconidae*. Heterocoela with spherical, ciliated chambers. 19 species.
7. Familia. *Teichonidae*. Heterocoela, the surface of which is differentiated into one bearing Oscula, and one bearing inhalant pores. 3 species.

6. Notes on the direction of the hair on the back of some Kangaroos By N. de Miklouho-Maclay. The peculiarity of inverted hair on the back of some of the Kangaroo tribe is traced by the Baron in the genera *Dorcopsis*, *Dendrolagus* and in one species of *Osphranter* (*Osphranter rufus*). The paper also contains some remarks on the dentition of *Dendrolagus Dorianus*. — 7. Note on *Tribrachyerinus Clarkei* McCoy. By F. Ratte, M.E. The previous descriptions of this fossil were taken from imperfect inner casts only. Mr. Ratte has now been enabled to describe thoroughly and illustrate this beautiful crinoid from an outer cast of the calyx in the Australian Museum. The most important additions to previous descriptions are the ornaments of the surface of the calyx, the attachment of the first brachial article, and the plates of the roof of the calyx. — 8. On the Larvae and Larva Cases of some Australian Aphrophoridae. By F. Ratte, M.E. This paper describes the larval state of some small species of *Rhynchota* closely allied to the genus *Aphrophora* and belonging probably to the genus *Ptyelus*. They are as yet imperfectly known; but the description of their larva cases and of some of the larvae discloses a feature probably quite new to the science of entomology. These cases, unlike those of insects generally, are true shells, containing at least three-fourths of carbonate of lime, and

resembling in shape some fossil and recent serpulæ, some being conical, others serpuliform, or helicoidal. The conical shells are fixed on the branches of some species of Eucalyptus, the mouth turned upwards, the larva being placed in it with the head downwards. It introduces its suctorial apparatus into the bark of the stem, sucks the sap of the tree, and emits from time to time by its anus, drops of clear water. This property of emitting water is possessed by all the family. — Dr. George Hurst exhibited an egg of *Scythrops Novæ Hollandiæ*, taken from the ovarium of a bird shot this month at Kempsey. He mentioned that the only other specimen of this egg ever recorded was obtained in a similar manner and described in Gould's Handbook of the Birds of Australia. — The President exhibited four specimens of the shell-like covering of a species of *Phryganea*. These are built up entirely of small round nodules of brown iron ore, fastened together by a silky web. They were obtained on the north end of New Caledonia, by Dr. Storer, in a creek flowing over rocks composed of iron ore.

3. Società Entomologica italiana in Firenze.

Adunanza ordinaria del di 11 Gennaio 1885. — Presidenza Targioni Tozzetti Ad. — Osten Sacken, Elenco completo dei lavori di Rondani. — Targioni Tozzetti, Note sui Coccidi. — Berlese, Sistematica degli Acari. — Camerano, Sulla Neotenia negli insetti. — Macchiati, Flora degli Afidi di Cuneo, con descrizione di nuove specie. — Bargagli, Biologia di Rincofori europei. — Costa, Artropodi di Sardegna. — Stefanelli, Sul *Cossus* a Montevarchi, e sulla *Zeuzera aesculi* dannosa all' ulivo. — Marchi, *Zeuzera* dannosa agli Aranci. — Targioni Tozzetti, Notizie preliminari sopra una *Cecidomyia* dannosa all' ulivo. — Bargagli, Volo notturno dell' *Harpalus griseus*. — Targioni Tozzetti, Su alcune abitudini delle larve di Libellulidi. — G. Cavanna, Segret.

IV. Personal-Notizen.

's Rijks Museum van Natuurlijke Historie te Leiden.

Director: Dr. F. A. Jentink (Säugethiere).

Conservatoren: C. Ritsema Czn. (Insecten).

Dr. R. Horst (niedere Thiere).

Dr. Th. W. van Lidth de Jeude (Fische u. Reptilien).

J. Büttikofer (Vögel).

Administrator: F. A. Verster van Wulverhorst.

Necrolog.

Am 6. Januar starb zu Christiania Herr Peter Christen Asbjørnsen, der ausgezeichnete Beobachter, liebenswürdige Schriftsteller und Litterarhistoriker seines Vaterlands und anhängliche Freund. Er war am 15. Januar 1812 geboren.

Am 10. Januar starb zu Prag Prof. Dr. Friedrich Ritter von Stein, der bekannte ausgezeichnete Infusorienforscher.

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