

der Membran dieses Eitheiles bei Reptilien beschrieben hat. Ich will sie Mantelschicht nennen, da sie als eine von der Membran des Keimbläschens bestimmt verschiedene Lage zu erkennen ist. Nur zeitweilig vorhanden, wie ich es bei Arten von Säugern, Amphibien, Fischen, mehreren Arthropoden und Würmern gesehen, unterliegt auch ihre Ausdehnung um das Keimbläschen herum mancherlei Verschiedenheiten. Die Substanz dieser Mantelschicht betreffend, so besteht sie aus Körnern oder Krümeln, die vom Aussehen der Keimflecke sind und dabei öfters so gruppirt, daß dadurch eine strahlige Streifung zu Tage kommt. Ich werde Beobachtungen mitzutheilen haben, welche in hohem Grade wahrscheinlich, um nicht zu sagen gewiß machen, daß besagte Schicht um das Keimbläschen mit dem Austreten von Keimflecken im Zusammenhang steht.

(Schluß folgt.)

III. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

28th September, 1887. — 1) Descriptions of new Australian Fishes. By E. P. Ramsay, LL.D., F.R.S.E., and J. Douglas-Ogilby. The fishes described are (1) *Opisthognathus inornatus* from Derby, King's Sound, N. W. Australia; (2) *Neopempheris pectoralis* taken by Mr. Theodore Bevan in the Aird River, New Guinea; (3) *Trichiurus Coxii* from Broken Bay; and (4) *Cossyphus bellis* from Shoalhaven. — 2) and 3) Botanical. — 4) Notes on Australian Earthworms. Part IV. By J. J. Fletcher. A preliminary account is here given of six new species of earthworms, of which four (*Notoscolex Gippslandicus*, *N. tuberculatus*, *Perichaeta Bakeri*, and *P. dorsalis*) are from Gippsland, Victoria, one (*Notoscolex Tasmanianus*) is from Tasmania, and one (*Cryptodrilus mediterraeus*) from the interior of New South Wales. The first-named species comprises very large worms with about 500 body-segments; and as, among other points of difference, a girdle of the ordinary character is present, commencing with the posterior portion of segment XIII and including XXI (the male pores being on XVIII), the species is perfectly distinct from *Megascolides australis* from the same district, described by Prof. McCoy. The Tasmanian *Notoscolex* though smaller is still a large worm, with about 200 body-segments. — 5) Observations on early Stages in the Development of the Emu. By W. A. Haswell, M.A., D.Sc. Though much has been written on the embryology of birds, no member of the Ratite or Struthionid sub-class has hitherto been made the subject of investigation. The subjects mainly dealt with in this Paper are the history of the primitive streak, the mode of origin of the mesoblast and of the notochord, and the neurenteric canals. — Mr. Macleay exhibited a specimen of *Erythrichthys nitidus* of Richardson, described in the 'Voyage of the Erebus and Terror', from West Australia. He had received the fish from Mr. Morton of the Hobart Museum. It had been captured on the South Coast of Tasmania.

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