

Centrum gerichtet sind, während die andere noch verschiedenartige Theilungsstadien aufweist.

Die Entwicklung der Eier wie der Samenkörper von *Spongilla* schließt sich somit in befriedigender Weise an die bei höheren Thieren vielfach beobachteten Vorgänge an, wenn auch manche Besonderheiten nicht zu verkennen sind.

Zürich, den 28. October 1887.

### III. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

#### 1. Linnean Society of London.

3<sup>d</sup> Nov. 1887. — The President commented on the loss the Society had sustained by the deaths of Prof. Julius von Haast, N.Z., Dr. Spencer Baird, U.S. and Prof. Caspary of Königsberg. — Mr. H. N. Ridley gave an account of his Natural History Collection in Fernando Noronha. The group of islands in question is in the S. Atlantic 194 miles East of Cape San Roque. The largest is about 5 miles long and 2 miles across at broadest part. Although chiefly basaltic, phonolite rocks crop up here and there. The cliffs are steep, but otherwise the soil is fertile; there is an absence of sandy bays on the south side. Generally speaking the specific animal forms differ on the opposite sides of the main island. The indigenous fauna and flora seems to have been much modified, and in some cases extirpated by human agency. Of mammals the cat is reported to have become feral, and rats and mice swarm; Cetacea occasionally frequent the coast. The Land Birds comprise a species of Dove, a Tyrant and a Greenlet (*Virio*). Sea Birds are numerous but by no means so abundant as they were formerly when the island was first discovered. Among the reptiles were found a species of *Amphisbaena*, a Scink (*Euprepes punctatus*) and a Gecko; turtles are also frequently seen in the bays. Batrachians and fresh water fish are entirely absent. One butterfly, a well known Brazilian species was plentiful; but insects though abundant were poor in number of species. Two species of *Trochi*, called for remark as having a southern distribution, the remainder of the marine shells and indeed most of the marine fauna and flora show affinities to that of the West Indies. — A paper was read viz. — Report on the Pennatulida of the Mergui Archipelago by Prof. A. Milnes Marshall and Dr. J. Herbert Fowler. The Collection made by Dr. John Anderson was from shallow water and mud flats exposed to spring tides. Of 10 species, 2 are new and there are several varieties not hitherto recorded. — J. Murie.

### IV. Personal-Notizen.

#### Necrolog.

Am 6. November starb in New Haven Professor Oscar Harger, Palaeontolog und Zoolog an der Yale Universität, besonders bekannt durch seine Isopoden-Arbeiten. Er war in Oxford, Conn., am 12. Januar 1843 geboren

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