

Gewicht zugeschlagen wurden. So ist es wenigstens der Fall bei dem Netze von Pavesi, während ich über das von Imhof benutzte keine genaueren Angaben in der Litteratur erlangen konnte.«

(Schluß folgt.)

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

#### 1. Zoological Society of London.

6<sup>th</sup> March, 1888. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of February 1888; and called special attention to some examples of a Finch from New Caledonia (*Erythrura psittacea*); and to five specimens of a Pheasant (*Phasianus principalis*) from Afghan Turkestan. The Pheasants had been brought home and presented by Major Peacock, R.E., of the Afghan Frontier Commission, at the request of Sir Peter Lumsden, G.C.B., C.S.I., F.Z.S. — The Secretary exhibited (on behalf of Lieut.-Col. H. M. Drummond Hay) a specimen of the Desert Wheatear (*Saxicola deserti*), lately killed in Scotland. — A paper by Prof. G. B. Howes, F.Z.S., and Mr. W. Ridewood, on the carpus and tarsus of the Anura, was read. The authors recorded observations made upon thirty-seven genera and sixty species, in all stages of development, representatives of all but three or four less important families. The authors were at variance with previous writers in points which had necessitated a reconsideration of the morphological value of the leading elements of both carpus and tarsus. They had failed to discover, at any stage, a trace of a third proximal element in either fore or hind foot, while they showed that Born was in error in regarding the naviculare as the prehallux tarsal. In the hind foot they recorded the discovery of a fourth tarsal, and in the fore foot that of a fifth carpal, which latter in *Xenophrys* was bony. Consequent upon this they regarded the element hitherto held to be the fifth carpal as a postaxial centrale; whence it followed that the Anura are, as a group, unique in the possession throughout of a double centrale carpi. The authors discussed the various changes undergone by the pollux and prehallux, and the several views concerning the morphological value of the latter. — A second part was added in which the peculiarities of the several families of the Anura were given in order, and the bearings of the structures in question upon classification briefly discussed. The Discoglossidae were shown to combine most completely the least modified conditions of both fore and hind feet. — Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, F.Z.S., read descriptions of new species of birds of which specimens had been lately received from the island of Guadalcanar, Solomon Group, collected by Mr. C. M. Woodford. These were named: — *Astur holomelas*, *Astur Woodfordi*, *Astur shebae*, *Baza guadalcanarensis*, *Ninox Granti*, *Graucalus hololius*, *Edolusoma erythropygium*, and *Pomarea erythrosticta*. — Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant contributed a complete list of the birds obtained by Mr. Woodford on the islands of Guadalcanar and Rubiana. These were altogether sixty-six in number, the new ones being: — *Nasiterna aolae*, *Myzomela Sharpii*, *Phlogaenas solomonensis*, *Ardeiralla Woodfordi*, and *Nycticorax mandibularis*. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

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Artikel/Article: [1. Zoological Society of London 172](#)