

rasch fortschreitende Vergrößerung des Bildes wahrnehmen. Man könnte die Versuche Plateau's mit Hymenopteren<sup>s</sup> auch sehr gut in dieser Weise deuten.

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

#### 1. Zoological Society of London.

2<sup>nd</sup> April, 1889. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March 1889, and called attention to a specimen of the Manatee (*Manatus australis*), purchased March 2nd, being the second example of this Sirenian obtained alive by the Society; to an oriental Phalanger (*Phalanger orientalis*, var. *breviceps*), presented by Mr. C. M. Woodford, of Sydney, and to a specimen of Owen's Apteryx (*Apteryx Oweni*), presented by Capt. C. A. Findlay. — Mr. Smith-Woodward exhibited and made remarks on a maxilla of the early Mesozoic Ganoid *Saurichthys* from the Rhaetic formation of Aust Cliff, near Bristol. — A communication was read from Mr. W. K. Parker, F.Z.S., on the osteology of *Steatornis caripensis*. The conclusion arrived at as regards the affinities of this isolated form of Birds was that *Steatornis* is a waif of an ancient avifauna, of which all the near allies are extinct, and that *Podargus* of Australia is its nearest surviving relative. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas read some preliminary notes on the characters and synonymy of the different species of Otter. The author gave a revised synonymy of the four species of *Lutra* recognized as belonging to the Palaearctic and Indian Regions, and of the two found in the Aethiopian Region. The American Otters, for want of a larger series of specimens, could not at present be satisfactorily worked out. — Mr. E. T. Newton read a paper, entitled „A Contribution to the History of Eocene Siluroid Fishes“. Mr. Newton observed that spines of Siluroid Fishes from the Bracklesham Beds were described by Dixon in his 'Fossils of Sussex' (1850), and referred to the genus *Silurus*. Mr. A. Smith-Woodward had recently shown good reason for referring these specimens, and certain cephalic plates from the same horizon, to the tropical genus *Arius*. The greater part of a skull, from the Eocene Beds of Barton, in the Museum of the Geological Survey, confirmed the latter generic reference. Its close resemblance to a skull of *Arius gaborides* in the British Museum left no room for questioning their generic relationship, while at the same time the fossil differed from any known species of *Arius*. The fortunate discovery of one of the otoliths within the fossil skull, and its resemblance in important points to that of *A. gaborides*, still further confirmed this determination. Some other otoliths from Barton, and one from Madagascar, were also referred to the genus *Arius*. — Mr. A. Smith-Woodward read a note on *Bucklandium diluvii*, a fossil from the London Clay of Sheppey, noticed by König, and hitherto not satisfactorily determined. It was shown that this fossil was a portion of the skull of a Siluroid Fish allied to the existing genus *Auchenoglanis*. — A communication was read from Mr. H. W. Bates, F.R.S., containing descriptions of new species of the Coleopterous family Carabidae, collected by Mr. J. H. Leech in Kashmir and Baltistan. — A

<sup>s</sup> l. c. Separat. p. 39 ff.

second communication from Mr. Bates gave descriptions of some new species of the Coleopterous families Cicindelidae and Carabidae, taken by Mr. Pratt at Chang Yang, near Ichang, in China. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

## 2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

27<sup>th</sup> February, 1889. — 1) Notes on the genus *Lestophonus*, Williston, and description of a new Species. By Frederick A. A. Skuse. After briefly recounting what is known of the Dipterous parasite (*Lestophonus iceryae*, Will.) of *Icerya Purchasi*, Mask., from the time of its discovery by Mr. Crawford of Adelaide, to its artificial introduction into California, the author points out that two distinct species have been erroneously regarded by Dr. Williston as identical, viz., the parasite of the above-mentioned Coccid and that of *Monophlebus Crawfordi*, Mask. Having lately bred large numbers of both parasites, the author has been enabled to give the matter a thorough examination, and, with a view of assisting in the exact determination of the two species, submits a more complete description of *L. iceryae*, and characterises the new species under the name *L. monophlebi*. He is also of opinion that the genus *Lestophonus* can be included in the family Oscinidae only as an anomalous genus. Not only is the arista of the antennae entirely wanting, and the anal cell present, but a rudimentary auxiliary vein is visible, and a pale posterior basal transverse vein exists. — 2) Descriptions of two new species of Australian Cetoniidae. By Oliver E. Janson, F.E.S. Communicated by A. Sidney Olliff, F.E.S. In this short notice Mr. Janson describes two distinct new forms of the genus *Diaphonia*, named respectively *D. Olliffiana* and *D. adusta*, one from Warra, New South Wales, the other from Western Australia. The first of these was collected by Captain W. Peel, and is allied to the common *D. dorsalis*, Don.; the characters of its female are added in a foot-note by Mr. Olliff. — Mr. Brazier exhibited on behalf of Mr. R. C. Rossiter, a pair of the eggs of the „Mallow Hen“ (*Megapodius Layardi*) from Malicolo, New Hebrides. — Mr. Rohu exhibited four embryos of *Crocodilus porosus* in rather advanced stages of development, from Queensland.

## IV. Personal-Notizen.

Utrecht. E. Rosenberg ist nicht nach Amsterdam (wie in No. 305 irrthümlich angegeben wurde), sondern als Nachfolger des aus Gesundheitsrücksichten abgetretenen Prof. W. Koster nach Utrecht berufen worden. Nachfolger M. Fürbringer's in Amsterdam ist G. Ruge von Heidelberg geworden.

### Necrolog.

Am 10. März starb in Paris Charles Frédéric Martins, welcher, am 6. Febr. 1806 in Paris geboren, Professor der medicinischen Naturgeschichte in Montpellier war und sich außer durch geologische, meteorologische und botanische Arbeiten durch mehrere vortreffliche Untersuchungen über die Morphologie der Säugethiere bekannt gemacht hat.

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