

of the intestine into the XV. segment. This sac is lined with a thick glandular looking epithelium and is probably identical with a similar structure described by Michaelsen in *Stuhlmannia*. Had I not ascertained that this sac and the perioesophageal ring communicates with the ovarian sac and not with the orifice of the spermatheca (to be mentioned presently), I should have regarded it from the character of the epithelium only as a spermatheca.

The oviducts open laterally upon the XIV. segment. Each oviduct is a short straight tube with ciliated epithelial lining and muscular walls; the funnel opens partly into the perioesophageal ring and partly into the egg sac of its own side which in its turn seems to be connected with the perioesophageal ring.

On the middle line of the XIII. segment opens the bursa copulatrix; this is a small globular sac from which arises a slender spermatheca with very muscular walls; the spermatheca is entirely enclosed by the left hand portion of the perioesophageal ring and ends blindly in the interior of that coelomic space.

It is therefore quite invisible on a dissection of the worm, which produces the impression that the perioesophageal spaces communicate with the exterior through the bursa copulatrix.

In nearly all the Eudrilidae the ovary is enclosed in a special sac and in *Eudrilus* itself as I have pointed out (»Contributions to the Anatomy of Earthworms« etc. Quart. Journ. Micr. Sc. Vol. XXX. p. 446 etc.) this sac is of small extent and communicates directly with the exterior, thus showing no little resemblance to the *Hirudinea*. In the present genus, for which I propose the name of *Hyperiodrilus*, the ovarian sac is singularly complicated and does not communicate by a special duct with the exterior. I am disposed to think that the very curious genitalia of *Polytoreutus* owe their appearance partly to a similar development of the ovarian sacs.

London, Aug. 21. 1890.

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

#### 1. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

27th August, 1890. — 1) Reptiles from New Guinea. By C. W. De Vis, M.A., Corr. Mem. Fourteen species (Lacertilia 11, Ophidia 3), of which three (*Emoa pallidiceps*, *E. cuneiceps*, and *Homolepida Englishi*) are proposed as new, are herein recorded. The specimens were obtained on the St. Joseph River by Mr. A. C. English, collector to his Honour Sir William Macgregor, Administrator. — 2) On Queensland and other Australian Lepi-

doptera, with descriptions of new species. By T. P. Lucas, M.R.C.S.E., L.S.A., and L.R.C.P., Ed. About forty species referable to fourteen families are proposed as new, and striking varieties of four species already known are described. — 3) On the identity of *Bronteus Partschii*, de Kon., (non Barrande), from the Upper Silurian Rocks of N.S.W. By R. Etheridge, junr., and John Mitchell. From a knowledge of its pygidium only, Professor de Koninck identified a trilobite among the Australian fossils submitted to him and described in his »Recherches sur les Fossiles Paléozoïques de la Nouvelle Galles du Sud« as *Bronteus Partschii*. Mr. Jenkins in his second paper »On the Geology of Yass Plains« (P.L.S.N.S.W. III., p. 217) refers to specimens of the same species as *Bronteus* sp., which he considers related to, if not identical with, *B. Partschii*. From the examination of additional material from the Bowning series, of the same age as the Hume beds of Jenkins, the authors have come to the conclusion that the Australian trilobite in question is not to be identified with Barrande's *B. Partschii*, and they accordingly separate it as a new species under the name *B. Jenkinsi*. — 4) Notes on the Plumage of the adult males in certain species of *Malurus*. By A. J. North, F.L.S. The statement of the late Mr. Gould that the gay attire of the members of the genus *Malurus* »is only assumed during the pairing season, and is retained for a very short period, after which the sexes are alike in colouring« (»Handbook to the Birds of Australia«, I., 317)« is criticised, and shown to be incorrect, since full-plumaged males, more particularly in the section of the genus in which blue predominates, are to be met with all the year round. — Mr. Froggatt exhibited some larvae of an undetermined species of saw-fly, received from Mr. French, which is destroying the tanning wattle, *Acacia decurrens*, about Melbourne. They not only destroy the leaves, but also gnaw the bark, soon killing the trees. The pest was locally known as »Fire-blight«, until Mr. French, the Government Entomologist of Victoria, discovered and recognised the small grubs. — Mr. Fletcher showed specimens of a small worm (family *Tubificidae*) which like the remarkable trematode (*Temnocephala*) described by Dr. Haswell lives as a commensal upon *Astacopsis serratus*. — Some discussion then took place as to the meaning of the now universally adopted term »kangaroo«, namely whether, as has recently been reported, in the dialect of the blacks of the Endeavour River the word signified »I don't know« and was so used in answer to the queries of Captain Cook's party, or whether as Cook supposed it really was the name of the animal in use among the aborigines of the locality.

#### IV. Personal-Notizen.

Herr G. C. Bourne, M.A., F.L.S., hat seine Stellung als »Director of the Laboratory of the Marine Biological Association« in Plymouth, England, aufgegeben.

#### Necrolog.

L'Abbé S. A. de Marseul starb in Paris am 16. April 1890. Er war am 21. Januar 1812 in Fougerolles-du-Plessis (Mayenne) geboren.

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