

lich die Cystenbildung der Theilung, Knospung und Sporenbildung vorausgeht. Hier regeneriert sich nur ein einzelliges Wesen, bei *Aeolosoma* und Regenwurm der vielzellige Organismus.

Zur geschlechtlichen Fortpflanzung steht die Encystierung von *Aeolosoma* kaum in näheren Beziehungen; bekanntlich dauert die Geschlechtsreife dieser Gattung eine sehr kurze Zeit und die mit Geschlechtsorganen versehenen Würmer sind ziemlich selten, während die Mehrzahl sich zu gleicher Zeit ungeschlechtlich weiter fortpflanzt, um schließlich den Encystierungsproceß einzugehen. Es ist auch sehr wahrscheinlich, daß die Geschlechtsthier nach der Eiablage absterben, während die auf ungeschlechtlichem Wege sich fortpflanzenden Individuen sich in den Cysten zur weiteren Lebensthätigkeit regenerieren.

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

January 27th, 1892. — 1) Contributions to a more exact knowledge of the Geographical Distribution of Australian Batrachia. No. 3. By J. J. Fletcher. In this short paper collections are recorded from Warroo and Pimpama, South Queensland, and from Lucknow and Yass, N.S.W.; and some general observations both as to characters and distribution based on the examination of the several hundred specimens recorded in the short papers of which this is the third, are noted. — 2) A Monograph of the *Temnocephaleae*. Part 1. By Professor W. A. Haswell. Since the author published an account of *Temnocephala* (Quart. Journ. Micro. Sci. 1888) there have appeared several important contributions to the subject by Max Weber, Monticelli and Braun. The receipt from Dr. von Ihering of a new species which lives in the branchial sac of *Ampullaria* in certain streams in Brazil, led the author to re-examine the entire group. This re-examination revealed the presence of cilia on the surface in the adult condition of certain of the species, and has led to a more complete comprehension of the excretory system with its »Wimperflammen« and excretory cells, in addition to throwing light on other points. The present paper is an account of all that is now known of the morphology of the family, with a description of three new species. The second part will contain an account of the embryology with a discussion of the relationships of this aberrant group. — Dr. Cox exhibited a specimen of *Purpura textilosa*, a common marine shell on the South Australian coast, brought to him from Brewarrina on the Darling; and he said that at first he was extremely puzzled to account for the means of transport to such a distance from the coast. The true explanation of the matter probably was to be found in the fact that as, instead of carrying lime so great a distance — Brewarrina being fully 1000 miles by river from the sea — it was usual to take up shells from the coast by the river steamers and burn them where required, the specimen exhibited had formed part of such an importation. — Mr. Palmer exhibited a snake (*Hoplocephalus nigrescens*, Gthr.) and a lizard (*Tiliqua gigas*, Sch.) caught yesterday on the Blue Mountains, as they came to drink at a little runnel of water very shortly after it

had been caused to flow from a pool higher up by one of his companions, the weather being very hot and dry until the heavy rain accompanying the heavy thunderstorm later on in the afternoon. — In reply to an enquiry on the part of Mr. A. Sidney Olliff as to the exact habitat of the splendid Lucanid beetle, *Phalacrognathus Muelleri*, described by Sir William Macleay in 1885 (P.L.S.N.S.W., Vol. X. pp. 135 and 474) from two specimens about which the only information then available was that they came from North Australia, Mr. F. A. Skuse said that specimens had recently been received by the Australian Museum from Russell Scrub, Boar Pocket, near Cairns, Queensland.

February 24th, 1892. — Mr. Froggatt exhibited 1) a series of specimens illustrating the life-history of the butterfly *Ialmenus evagoras*, Don., the larvae of which he had recently obtained at Maitland on the foliage of *Acacia decurrens*, and had noticed that they were visited by numberless ants, attracted by a sugary excretion: 2) a large arboreal spiny grasshopper recently obtained by Mr. Bäuerlen, botanical collector of the Technological Museum, at Ballina, Richmond River, much resembling in appearance the rough and thorny creeper upon which it is found: and 3) a small collection of rare beetles obtained either by Mr. Bäuerlen at Ballina or by the exhibitor at Allalong, near Maitland, and including *Monohammus* sp., *Hebecerus crocogaster* Boisd., *Stenoderus ostricilla*, Newm., *Phaolus Macleayi*, Pasc., *Xylo-nychus* sp., *Amphirhoe decora*, Newm., *Penthea solida*, Pasc., *Prophanus cupreus*, Gray, and *Brenthis* sp. — Dr. Cox exhibited a noteworthy collection of starfishes, remarkable sponges, and fine specimens of Gorgonias brought up by pearling divers from considerable depths off the extreme north-west coast of Australia, for the opportunity of exhibiting which he was indebted to Mr. Gibbins, who had taken much trouble to bring specimens. Also specimens (♀ and ♂) of the prawn *Palaeomon ornatus*, Olivier, which has recently and suddenly appeared in great numbers in the Hunter River, and is now coming into the market for edible purposes, though in his experience such had never been previously the case. Also good photographs of angler-fishes, and of a »siamese-twin« shark (*Acanthias antarctica*) from New Zealand. — Mr. A. G. Hamilton sent for exhibition a specimen of a large hairy caterpillar infested with several hundreds of parasitic mites, found by him at Illawarra.

2. Gesellschaft deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte in Nürnberg.

Auf Anregung der Geschäftsführer der 65. Versammlung der Gesellschaft deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte haben wir die Vorbereitungen für die Verhandlungen der Abtheilung No. 5: Zoologie übernommen und beehren uns hiermit, die Herren Vertreter des Faches zur Theilnahme an den Sitzungen ganz ergebenst einzuladen.

Wir bitten, Vorträge und Demonstrationen frühzeitig — vor Ende Mai — bei dem unterzeichneten Einführenden anmelden zu wollen, da die allgemeinen Einladungen, welche Anfang Juli versendet werden, bereits eine vorläufige Übersicht der Abtheilungs-Sitzungen bringen sollen.

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