

sity of Sydney. — This paper gives a detailed account of the peculiar sense organs discovered by Mr. E. B. Poulton, F.R.S., and briefly described and referred to as »hair-like« in structure, in his note (Proc. Physiol. Soc. 1884) on some points in the structure of the skin covering the so-called beak of *Ornithorhynchus*. These organs, which are distributed over the whole surface of the skin covering the upper and lower jaws, and the lappet surrounding the base of the muzzle, but are also found in the mucous membrane of the palate, present an appearance remarkably like the roots of hairs, surrounded by their follicles, but possessing no papillae. The core, which simulates the hair-shaft, is seen to be longitudinally striated, which adds still further to the general resemblance; it is built up of a series of superimposed nucleated epithelial elements. The nervous arrangements of these organs are much more complicated than Poulton describes: towards the base of each organ a considerable leash of nerve fibres is directed, and these terminate in three ways — 1) in the small Pacinian bodies described by Poulton, in the connective tissue beneath the flattened base of the organ; 2) in a number of small lenticular bodies situated in the base of the organ between the epithelial cells which are formed by the apposition of two lens-like cells with an intermediate disk, the latter being the flattened termination of the axis cylinder of a nerve fibre, which can be seen to enter the periphery of the basal portion of the organ; and 3) the larger number of the nerve fibres thus entering lose their medullary sheath and divide, being continued in a longitudinal direction as fine nodose fibrils, of which two series may be distinguished. Papers Nos. 4 and 5 will appear in the forthcoming Macleay Memorial Volume. — Mr. Brazier exhibited, in a good state of preservation, a copy of a very old work, *Index Testarum Conchyliorum*, by Gualtier, printed and published in Florence, Italy, in 1742. Also a specimen of *Cassia nana*, Tenison-Woods, from Ballina, Richmond River, the first record of this species from the N.S.W. coast, the type having been found at Moreton Bay by the late Mr. C. Coxen. Also examples of *Murex octogonus*, Quoy, from Auckland, received from Professor Hutton, and of *M. umbilicatus*, Tenison-Woods, from South Australia; the latter was named *M. scalaris* by A. Adams in 1853, but the name being preoccupied, that of *nana*, T.-Woods, must be reverted to.

### III. Personal-Notizen.

Königliche Biologische Anstalt auf Helgoland. Zum Assistenten für Botanik ist, vorläufig bis zum 1. April 1893, Dr. Paul Kuckuck, bisher in Kiel, angestellt worden.

#### Necrolog.

Am 30. August starb in Marburg Professor Dr. Richard Greeff, 64 $\frac{1}{2}$  Jahr alt.

#### Berichtigung.

Zoologischer Anzeiger No. 399. — Gerd, Zur Frage über die Keimblätterbildung bei den Hydromedusen. In der Übersetzung hat sich eine kleine Ungenauigkeit eingestellt, welche zu berichtigen wir für nöthig halten. Nämlich der Ausdruck »Absorption« der Zellschicht ist im Sinne »Absonderung« gebraucht worden.

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