

*pompilius* found by Mr. Whitelegge stranded on the beach at Curl Curl Lagoon, near Sydney, and he remarked that instances of this species drifting ashore on our coast had been recorded by Mr. Brazier, in the Catalogue Marine Shells of Australia and Tasmania, p. 18. It has also been noticed by Mr. Johnston as wrecked on the Tasmanian coast. On the Queensland seaboard the speaker had frequently remarked it. There it is highly prized by the aborigines, who trade the shells as ornaments from tribe to tribe; the time for its occurrence is said by the natives to coincide with the blossoming of the Bloodwood tree (*Eucalyptus corymbosa*). Associated with the Pearly Nautilus among the sea-drift on the northern coast are cocoanuts, so fresh as to be eagerly devoured by the blacks, and pumice stone. The nuts might have floated from any tropical island in the Pacific; the Nautilus shells are derivable from the narrower limits of the Solomons, the Fijis, and the New Hebrides, while the pumice would seem to be the product of the active volcanoes of the New Hebrides. The agent which strews these foreign products on Australian coasts is probably not an ocean current, but the north east trade-wind. — Mr. J. Mitchell, Narellan, contributed the following »Note on the discovery of the genus *Estheria* in the Upper Coal Measures of N.S.W.«: — On July 3rd inst., from beneath the second coal seam at Bellambi, in a cherty rock I obtained a very good specimen of the above, associated with *Glossopteris linearis* and *G. browniana* (?). It is worthy of note that this *Estheria* occurs associated with the same typical species of *Glossopteris* in the Illawarra district as the allied genus *Leaia* is found associated with in the Newcastle district; that the character of the rocks in each case is identical or nearly so, and that the relative positions as compared with the coal seams in each locality are equally in concurrence.

### III. Personal-Notizen.

Lincoln, Nebr., U.S.A. Dr. Henry B. Ward of Michigan University has accepted a call to the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebr., as Associate Professor of Zoology.

Melbourne. Dr. Arthur Dendy, of Melbourne, has been appointed to the position of Lecturer in Biology in the Canterbury College (University of New Zealand). His address, after January next, will be Canterbury College, Christchurch, New Zealand.

### Necrolog.

Am 12. August starb plötzlich in der Nähe von Newcastle-on-Tyne Mr. George Brook. Er war am 17. März 1857 geboren, war bis 1887 Scientific Assistant to the Scottish Fishery Board, und zuletzt Lecturer on Comparative Embryology an der Universität in Edinburgh. Außer seinen embryologischen Arbeiten ist er besonders rühmlich bekannt durch seine Bearbeitung der *Antipatharia* des Challenger und des soeben vollendeten »Catalogue of the Genus *Madrepora*« (Brit. Museum).

Am 14./26. August starb in Wiesbaden der Akademiker und Director des zoologischen Museums der kais. Academie d. Wiss. in St. Petersburg, Dr. Alexander Strauch. Im Jahre 1832 geboren war Strauch durch eine Reihe wichtiger Arbeiten als einer der bedeutendsten Herpetologen bekannt.

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