

d' abgeschnürt hat, so daß wir jetzt ein 12 Zellen-Stadium vor uns haben. In Fig. 9 habe ich nun das Endresultat der Furchungsveränderungen dargestellt, welche eintraten, als ich Wasser zusetzte. Wir erhalten durch das Zusammenfließen der 4 Micromeren mit ihren Mutterzellen wieder ein 8 Zellen-Stadium ganz ähnlich dem, von welchem wir ausgingen. Auch hier trat Abrundung und theilweise Überlagerung der Zellen ein.

Es ist mir einige Male vorgekommen, als ob die Kerne bei ihrem Zusammenfließen eine hantelförmige Gestalt angenommen hätten, jedoch kann ich dies nicht verbürgen, da der Vorgang zu rasch verlief, um dies mit Sicherheit zu beobachten.

Leider konnte ich den weiteren Verlauf der Furchung nicht verfolgen, da ich durch eine unvorsichtige Bewegung das Deckglas verschob, und mir die Eier aus dem Gesichtsfelde fortschwammen. Da ich einige Hundert Eier unter dem Deckglas hatte, die sich alle ziemlich ähnlich sahen, konnte ich die betreffenden Eier nicht mehr auffinden. Seither hatte ich keine Zeit mehr zur Erneuerung des Versuches und gieng auch die Reifezeit der Thiere sehr bald zu Ende. Daher muss ich bis zum nächsten Sommer warten, um das Experiment von Neuem anzustellen. Es wäre sehr zu wünschen, daß man die feineren cytologischen Vorgänge, so z. B. die Kernveränderungen während dieses Zusammenfließens kennen lernte, was wohl nur durch plötzliche Fixierung während des Processes gelingen kann. Ob es möglich ist, vermag ich nicht zu sagen, doch ist es jedenfalls mit außerordentlichen Schwierigkeiten verbunden. Immerhin ist das Experiment sehr anzuempfehlen die künstlich geschaffenen abnormen Verhältnisse, denen das Ei unterworfen wurde, plötzlich aufzuheben, und die Erscheinungen, welche dann erfolgen, genau zu beobachten.

New York, 4. October 1894.

Biological Departement of Columbia-College.

## II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

### 1. Zoological Society of London.

6th November, 1894. — The President read a letter addressed to him by the late Emin Pasha, C.M.Z.S., containing a diary of ornithological observations made during the last part of his journey towards the Congo. This letter and journal had been taken from the Arabs on the Upper Congo by the Officers of the Congo Free State, and forwarded to the President. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the months of June, July, August, and September, 1894, and called special attention to the following objects: — 1) Two remarkably large and fine specimens of the Hamadryad Snake of India and Burmah (*Ophiophagus elaps*), received in exchange and on deposit. 2) A series of mammals and birds

from British Central Africa, presented by Mr. H. H. Johnston, C.B., F.Z.S., and carefully brought home by Mr. Alexander Whyte, F.Z.S., the naturalist on Mr. Johnston's staff, on June 23rd. 3) A young male White-tailed Gnu (*Connochaetes gnu*), born in the Menagerie on June 23rd, being the produce of the male and one of the females that were purchased of Mr. Reiche, March 7th, 1893. This was the first occasion of this Antelope having bred in the Society's Gardens. 4) A fine female Eland of the striped form (*Oreos canna Livingstonii*), from the Transvaal, obtained by purchase July 10th, being the first individual of this variety received by the Society. 5) Two Giant Tortoises from the Aldabra Islands (*Testudo elephantina*), presented by Rear-Admiral W. R. Kennedy, F.Z.S., July 12th. 6) A young male Pleasant Antelope (*Tragelaphus gratus*), bred in the Zoological Gardens, Hamburg, received July 27th. — A communication from Mr. F. E. Blaauw, C.M.Z.S., contained some remarks on the colour of the bill in a living specimen of *Cygnus americanus*. — A communication was read from Mr. R. Trimen, C.M.Z.S., containing a reply to some remarks of Dr. A. G. Butler on his paper on the Manica Butterflies collected by Mr. Selous. — A communication was read from Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, C.M.Z.S., containing a correction to his paper »On the Affinities of the *Steganopodes*«, recently published in the Society's »Proceedings«. — Mr. O. Salvin, F.R.S., exhibited a pair of the newly described Butterfly *Ornithoptera paradisea*, from the Finisterre Mountains, German New Guinea. — Mr. C. Davies Sherborn, F.Z.S., exhibited a copy of, and made remarks on the recently issued reprint of George Ord's »American Zoology«. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., exhibited a Gecko, forwarded to him by Mr. R. T. Lewis, F.R.M.S., which had been captured in winter (July), fully active, on the snow upon the highest portion of the Drakensberg Range, Natal. It belonged to a genus believed until 1888 to be characteristic of the Australian fauna, and differed from its nearest ally, *Oedura africana*, in the smaller and convex granules covering the head and in the rostral shield not entering the nostril. Mr. Boulenger proposed for it the name *Oedura nivaria*. — Mr. Martin Jacoby read descriptions of some new species of the genus *Oedionychis* and allied genera of Coleoptera. — Mr. W. G. Ridewood read a paper on the hyoid arch of *Ceratodus*. The author instituted a comparison between the ventral elements of the hyoid arch of *Ceratodus* and the basi- and hypo-hyal cartilages of the Elasmobranchii. The relations of the hyomandibular cartilage were dealt with in detail, and attention was called to the wide range of variation which this vestigial cartilage exhibits. Arguments were also adduced to show that there is no connection between the reduction of the hyomandibular in the Dipnoi and its adaptation as a secondary suspensorium in the hyostylic fishes. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., read a third report on additions to the Batrachian Collection in the Natural History Museum, containing a list of the species, new or previously unrepresented, of which specimens had been added to the collection since 1890, and descriptions of some new species. — A communication was read from Mr. R. J. Lechmere Guppy, C.M.Z.S., containing an account of some Foraminifera from the Microzoic Deposits of Trinidad. — A communication was read from Sir Walter L. Buller, K.C.M.G., C.M.Z.S., containing remarks on a Petrel lately described as new by Capt. Hutton under the name of *Oestrelata leucophrys*. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

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