

Diese Zahlen beziehen sich aber nur auf den Großen Plöner See selbst. In den Buchten desselben macht sich der Rückgang noch nicht so stark bemerklich. So z. B. ergab ein Netzzug im Bischofs-See (bei 5 m Tiefe) am 20. August noch 1 138 250 Colonien von *Dinobryon stipitatum* und 353 250 von *Dinobryon divergens*, sowie 1 570 000 Individuen von *Ceratium*, 274 750 von *Hyalodaphnia kahlbergensis*, 4 984 000 Bänder von *Fragilaria crotonensis* und 172 700 Kugeln von *Gloeotrichia*. Dem entsprechend betrug das Volumen immer noch 314 ccm unter dem Quadratmeter, was in diesem Falle als der Planktongehalt von 5 cbm Wasser zu betrachten ist. Der Bischofs-See ist übrigens nichts weiter als eine durch einen Kranz von Inseln abgeschlossene Bucht des Plöner Sees.

## 2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

June 26th, 1895. — 1) Ethnological. — 2) Descriptions of some new *Araneidae* of New South Wales. No. 5. By W. J. Rainbow. Three new species of orb-weavers of the genus *Nephila* from New England and Sydney are described. The fact is recorded of a young bird (probably *Estrilda temporalis*) having been caught in the web of *N. ventricosa* in the vicinity of Sydney; also that Mr. A. J. Thorpe, of the Australian Museum, had seen an emu wren (*Stipiturus malachurus*) entangled in the web of one of the *Nephilae* at Madden's, near Belle Plains (N.S.W.); also at Cape York, several of the blue warblers, notably *Malurus Brownii* (Vig. et Hors.) and *M. amabilis* (Gould). The writer points out that it is only young birds and those of weak wing-power that are arrested by such webs; and he expresses doubt as to the correctness of the assertion of some writers that birds so caught are devoured by the spiders; he points out that each web is placed in position by the unerring instincts of the spider, simply because the situation is such as will assure abundance of food in the shape of insects, and that it is merely an accident when a bird becomes entangled in the toil. The paper concludes with a description of the mode of coition in the *Nephilae*, and a list of the previously described Australian species of the genus. — 3) Botanical. — 4) On a new fossil Mammal allied to *Hypsiprymnus*, but resembling in some points the *Plagiaulacidae*. By Robert Broom, M.B., C.M., B.Sc. The remains described under the name of *Burramys parvus* are those of a small Marsupial not larger than an ordinary mouse. The form is specially interesting in having but three true molars in each jaw; and a very large grooved premolar with serrate edge very similar to that found in the Eocene genus *Neoplagiaulax*. Its affinities are dealt with at some length, and an endeavour made to trace its relationship phylogenetically. — 5) On some new or hitherto little known Land Shells from New Guinea or adjacent Islands. By C. F. Ancey. Three new Papuan species, viz., *Hemiplecta granigera*, *Papua tuomensis*, and *Pupina Beddomei*, are described, and other known land shells from German New Guinea are discussed. — 6) and 7) Botanical. — Mr. Hedley showed a valve of *Cardium vertebratum*, Jonas, and offered the following observations: — »This valve was collected by Mr. J. Jennings on Balmoral Beach, Middle Harbour, Port Jackson. Though the occurrence of this shell in this neighbourhood has long been known to our veteran collector Mr. J. Brazier, it does not seem ever to have been recorded in literature. The species occurs near Bowen, Gladstone, Brisbane, and in Port Stephens,

apparently reaching its southern limit at Sydney. I have been unable to find Jonas' original description, and have arrived at the name after comparison with specimens so named by Mr. E. A. Smith. At the same place the same collector found numerous detached valves of *Cardium cygnorum*, Deshayes, a species which though well known in the southern colonies, does not seem to have been reported from this coast, where it here arrives at its northern known limit. Another *Cardium* apparently unnoted from N.S.W. is *C. Bechei*, Ad. and Reeve, which is represented in the collection of Dr. J. C. Cox from Port Stephens. Thence it extends northwards to Japan. — Mr. Masters exhibited a collection of 170 species of named Coleoptera, lately received from Mr. Arthur M. Lea, of Western Australia, containing types of all the species described by him in his last paper. The following families were represented: — *Malacodermidae* 59 species, *Pythidae* 3, *Pedilidae* 5, *Pyrochroidae* 2, *Mycetophagidae* 4, *Curculionidae* 3, *Melandryidae* 6, *Mordellidae* 47, *Anthicidae* 15, *Corylophidae* 20, and a few others. — Mr. Mitchell, Narellan, exhibited some fossils from the Wianamatta Series, in the neighbourhood of Narellan, consisting of insect remains and impressions of a plant apparently belonging to the *Taeniopteridae*. Mr. Froggatt, of the Technological Museum, had determined the insect remains to be referable to the Families *Blattidae* and *Buprestidae*. Of the former there were impressions of fragments of wings, and of the latter of an elytron. Mr. Etheridge, Curator of the Australian Museum, to whom the specimens had been submitted, confirmed Mr. Froggatt's opinion. The plants consisted of fragments of leaves showing rows of papillae along each side, or in some cases along one side, of the midrib on the basal portion, which may be sori. The fossil Orthoptera are from a railway cutting on the Great Southern line at Glenlee; the Buprestid and plants from the Great Road about a mile N.E. of Narellan. Mr. Mitchell also exhibited some oolitic limestone found in a sample of lime from Marulan.

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