

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

17th December 1895. — Dr. Donaldson Smith offered some remarks on some of the animals observed by him during his recent journey to Lakes Rudolph and Stephanie, and alluded especially to the species of Zebras and Antelopes encountered during his journey. — Mr. Selater exhibited and made remarks on the head of an Antelope obtained in Kavirondo, British East Africa, by Mr. E. Gedge. This Antelope had been hitherto usually identified with the »Kob« of Western Africa, but appeared to belong to a distinct species, to which the name *Cobus Thomasi* had been given by Herr Neumann. — Mr. G. F. Hampson read a paper on the classification of two subfamilies of the Moths of the family Pyralidae, the *Schoenobiinae* and *Crambinae*: in the former subfamily 25 genera were classified, in the latter 30. Both subfamilies were stated to be parallel developments with the *Hydrocampinae* from the primitive stock of the Pyralidae, represented most nearly among living forms by the more generalized *Pyraustinae* and the *Scopariinae*. The *Schoenobiinae* were traced from *Acentropus*, which was taken as the most ancient form, through *Cirrochrista*, *Scirpophaga*, &c. to *Ramila*, *Brihaspa*, and their allies, and, on the other hand, through *Obtusipalpis*, allied to *Cirrochrista*, through *Cacographis* to *Gonothyrus* and along other branches to *Banepa*, *Acropentias*, and *Niphopyralis*. The *Crambinae* were traced from the New Zealand *Gadira*, regarded as the most generalized form, in two main divisions: the first with vein 6 of the hind wing arising separately from 7, of which *Prionopteryx* and *Talis* and *Ancylolomia* were representatives of the two branches: the second with vein 6 arising from the same point with 7, which was traced as one branch to *Eschata*, *Chalcoëla*, &c., and as another branch through *Chilo* and *Platytes* to *Crambus* and the forms derived from it. — A communication was read from Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.Z.S., on *Caenolestes*, a still-existing survivor of the Epanorthidae of Ameghino, and the representative of a new family of recent Marsupials. The specimen upon which the new genus and species (*Caenolestes obscurus*) was based had been received from Bogota. The mammal described by Tomes in 1860 as *Hyracodon fuliginosus* from Ecuador was a second species of the same genus, but the name *Hyracodon* had been preoccupied, so that *Caenolestes* was proposed in its place. — Mr. Walter E. Collinge, F.Z.S., read a paper on the sensory and ampullary canals of *Chimaera*, and the innervation of the same. After describing the Elasmobranch character of the sensory canals, the author pointed out that, in addition to the ampullary canals described by Leydig, there were two other forms which were now described for the first time. The sensory canals were purely dermal, their only protection being a series of split cartilaginous hoops. The canals, both sensory and ampullary, were mainly innervated by the trigeminal group of nerves. As in the Dipnoi, there was a commissure between the vagus and facial (possibly trigeminal) which joins the vagus lateralis posterior to the vagus-ganglion, as in *Ceratodus*. Other Dipnoid characters were referred to. The glossopharyngeal nerve was found to pass from the skull by a separate foramen, quite distinct from the vagus, and not as has been described by Gegenbaur. — Mr. F. A. Bather read a paper on the fossil crinoid *Uintacrinus*. The paper attempted a complete morphological description of *Uin-*

tacrinus socialis, based on specimens from the Upper Cretaceous Beds of Western Kansas, now in the British Museum. The deficiencies of previous accounts were made good, and their errors corrected; this was specially the case with regard to the interbrachials, interpinnulars, brachials, pinnules, and joints. The comparison with other Crinoids, thus rendered possible, showed that *Uintacrinus* could not be related either to the Camerata or to the Ichthyocrinidae. It must therefore be related either to the palaeozoic Inadunata, or to their microzoic descendants, the Canaliculata. Among these a process of comparison and elimination left behind only the ascending evolutionary line that contained *Encrinus*, *Dadocrinus*, *Pentacrinus*, and *Apiocrinus*. A simple inspection enabled one to fix on *Dadocrinus* as the one among all known genera that were most nearly related to the ancestor of *Uintacrinus*. — A communication from Mr. W. Bateson, F.R.S., contained a note in correction of a passage in a paper on colour-variation in Flat Fishes recently read before the Society. — A communication from Dr. C. Brunner von Wattenwyl gave a list of the Orthoptera of the Hawaiian Islands. It combined the result of the examination of Mr. Perkins' first collections with what was previously known on this subject, a total of 29 species being thus obtained. A new genus and six new species were described in the present paper. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft.

Wahl des Vorstandes für die Jahre 1896 und 1897.

Für die Wahl des Vorstandes der Deutschen Zoologischen Gesellschaft waren bei dem Unterzeichneten 98 Briefe mit Stimmzetteln eingelaufen, die heute in Gegenwart des kgl. preußischen Notars, Justizraths Dr. Seckel zur Vollziehung der Wahl geöffnet wurden. Ein Stimmzettel war ungültig, da er keine Namen angab.

Durch die abgegebenen Stimmen wurden gewählt

zum Vorsitzenden:

Herr Geh. Hofrath Professor Dr. Bütschli in Heidelberg — mit 68 Stimmen;

zu Stellvertretern:

- 1) Herr Professor Dr. Carus in Leipzig — mit 51 Stimmen,
- 2) Herr Geh. Regierungsrath Professor Dr. F. Eilh. Schulze in Berlin — mit 50 Stimmen,
- 3) Herr Geh. Regierungsrath Professor Dr. Ehlers in Göttingen — mit 40 Stimmen;

zum Schriftführer:

Herr Professor Dr. Spengel in Gießen — mit 92 Stimmen.
Göttingen, 2. Januar 1896. Dr. E. Ehlers.

III. Personal-Notizen.

Rom. Der bis jetzt an der Universität von Catania thätig gewesene Professor Battista Grassi ist seit dem 1. November vorigen Jahres als Professor der vergleichenden Anatomie an die Universität Rom berufen. Seine Adresse ist von Anfang dieses Jahres

Signor Battista Grassi,
Professore di Anatomia Comparata all' Università di Roma.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1896

Band/Volume: [19](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Sclater Philip Lutley

Artikel/Article: [1. Zoological Society of London 31-32](#)