of all the species of recent animals hitherto described (estimated to be at least 386 000 in number), Mr. Sclater shortly recapitulated the Rules which were intended to be used in the preparation of this important work. The main divergences from the Stricklandian Code were pointed out to be three in number: - 1) The permission to use the same generic names in zoology and botany; 2) the use of »tautonyms«, that is the same generic and specific name for a species in certain cases; and 3) the adoption of the tenth edition of the »Sytema Naturae« instead of the twelfth as the commencement of binary nomenclature. The advantages of, and objections to, these alterations of the Stricklandian Code were discussed, and other minor points of nomenclature were touched upon, amongst which was the use of trinomials, which Mr. Sclater approved of as designations for subspecies. - A communication was read from Graf Hans von Berlepsch, C.M.Z.S., expressing his regret at not being present on this occasion, and giving his opinion on the three points specially discussed. He was not disinclined to give way on the first. but maintained the necessity of the second and third alterations proposed by the German Rules. - After some remarks by the Chairman, Mr. E. Hartert spoke in defence of the German Rules, and was followed by Prof. Lankester, Mr. H. J. Elwes, Dr. Sharp, Mr. Blanford, Mr. H. O. Forbes, and Mr. Kirby, who made remarks on various points. - A communication was read from Graf Hans v. Berlepsch and Mons. J. Stolzmann on the ornithological researches of M. J. Kalinowsky in Central Peru. The collections made in the years 1890-93 had been transmitted to the Branicky Museum of Warsaw, and contained examples of 295 species and subspecies, of which an account was given in the present paper. Five species and twenty-two subspecies were described as new. - Dr. David Sharp, F.R.S., on behalf of the Committee for investigating the flora and fauna of the West India Islands, communicated a paper on West-Indian terrestrial Isopod Crustaceans prepared by M. Adrien Dollfus. The paper contained an account of the Armadilloidian Isopods, of which specimens had been obtained by Mr. H. H. Smith in the islands of Grenada and St. Vincent and the adjacent islets. These were referred to thirteen species, all but one of which were described as new to science. - P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

January 7th, 1896. — Mr. Benjamin Sharp made his second communication on the ethnology of Alaska and Siberia.

January 14th. — H. A. Pilsbry »New species of the helicoid genus Polygyra«. — Mr. H. A. Pilsbry exhibited and described a specimen of *Pleurotomaria* from Mulliea Hill, N. J. It resembles *P. solariformis* and *P. perlata* but is much more discoidal and is probably the imperfectly described *P. crotaloides* of Morton.

January 21th. — Henry A. Pilsbry: »Descriptions of new species of Mollusks«. Witmer Stone: »The moulting of birds with special reference to the plumages of the summer birds of Eastern North America«. Prof. Edw. D. Cope exhibited and described the remains of fossil Balaenidae of which he had determined sixteen species from the Neocene of Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina. The earbones of an apparently undescribed *Balaenoptera* and of a *Balaena*, apparently identical with *affinis*, were also described. — A resolution was adopted urging on the attention of the Smithsonian Institution the desirability of continuing the rental of a table at the Naples Zoological Station for the benefit of American students of biology.

January 28th. — Samuel N. Rhoads: »Contributions to the Zoology of Tennessee, No. 3, Mammals«. — Mr. Benjamin Sharp continued his communication on the ethnology of Alaska. — In continuation Mr. W. G. Brinton spoke of the supposed influence of Asiatic emigration on the primitive civilizations of America. — A special committee of the entomological section of the Academy reported a mode of exterminating the tussock moth, *Orgyia leucostigma* with which the trees of the city streets and squares are so badly infested.

February 11th. — Prof. Edw. D. Cope exhibited and described a portion of a cetacean cranium from the Neocence beds of the Western shore of Chesapeake Bay. For a whalebone whale the frontal and parietal bones are of an unusual character. The presence or absence of dentition had not been determined. The specimen indicated a new genus and species for which the name *Metopocetus durinasus* was proposed.

February 18th. - Mr. Thos Meehan: Contributions to the lifehistory of plants, No. XII. - Mr. D. S. Holman exhibited a new stage for the microscope devised for the purpose of studying large objects. --Preparations of minerals containing diatoms in transverse section and other microscopic arrangements of diatoms prepared by Mr. John A. Schulze were exhibited by Mr. F. J. Keeley. - Prof. Edw. D. Cope described specimens of fossil Reptilia from the Permian and Trias. They belonged to the order Cotylosauria which had been described by him in 1879 and was afterward characterized by Seeley from African types. The order embraces the families Elginiidae, Pariasauridae and Pariotichidae, the distribution and characters of which were dwelt on. New genera of Diadectidae were described under the names Bolbodon and Diatomodon, the teeth of which as well as of the other genera of the family were illustrated. The *Platodontia* may have been derived from the Diadectidae. The roof over the temporal fossa and the foramen for the temporal eye were illustrated by specimens. The molar teeth of a species of Empedias, the cranium of Bolbodon tenuitectis, and the lower jaw of Diatomodon were exhibited. Another form, described under the name Conodectes favosus, may belong to the Diatectidae, but its relationships are at present uncertain. - Edw. J. Nolan, Recording Secretary.

3. Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft.

Die sechste Jahresversammlung

findet

vom 28.—30. Mai

im Zoologischen Institut zu Bonn

statt.

Vorläufiges Programm:

Mittwoch den 27. Mai Abends 8 Uhr:

Gegenseitige Begrüßung und zwanglose Zusammenkunft in der »Kaiserhalle«.

Donnerstag den 28. Mai:

9-12 Uhr: Erste Sitzung. Referat des Herrn Dr. O. Seeliger (Berlin): Natur und allgemeine Auffassung der Knospenfortpflanzung der Metazoen.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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