

Suchen fand ich am nächsten Morgen bei Regen mehrere mit Egelu besetzte Molche. Während der warmen, trockenen Tageszeit schützt er sich unter tief eingelagerten Steinen und feuchtem Holzwerke vor Austrocknung, der er leichtanheimfällt. In Blechbüchsen mit feuchtem Moose verpackte Thiere halten sich wochenlang lebend, während einmal ein Thier, das lebend in ein kleines Holz-(Zündhölzchen-)Schächtelchen eingeschlossen wurde, nach Verlauf von einem halben Tage bereits todt und fast vollständig vertrocknet war. Mit dieser Lebensweise vom Blute des Alpenmolches erklärt sich auch die Verbreitung der *Xerobdella*. *Salamandra atra* ist ein entschieden kalkholdes Thier, das sowohl in nördlichen als auch südlichen Kalkalpen in der alpinen Region überall verbreitet ist und bis in die obere Waldregion herabsteigt. In den Centralalpen tritt es nur sporadisch auf und nur dort, wo größere Kalkzüge sich finden. Die von Blanchard zusammengestellten und von mir oben angegebenen Fundorte der *Xerobdella* gehören nun alle den beiden Kalkalpenzügen der Ostalpen an bis auf einen, nämlich Millstadt in Kärnthen, das nördlich von der Drau liegend dem Südabfalle der Centralkette angehört, aber ebendort treten vielfach alte, palaeozoische Bänderkalke auf und ich vermute, daß die Millstädter *Xerobdella*, von Latzel gesammelt, aus einem derartigen Gebiete stammt.

Fundorts-Tabelle der *Xerobdella Lecomtei*.

Nördliche Kalkalpen	Steirisch-niederösterreichisches Grenzgebirge	Leoben (Lecomte, Latzel)
		Aflenz (Kaufmann) Naßthal (Latzel) Höllenthal (Latzel)
Centralkette	Nockgebiet	Millstadt (Latzel)
Südliche Kalkalpen	Carnische Alpen	Oisternik (Penecke)
	Karavanken	Obir (Penecke)
		Petzen (Gangelbauer, Penecke)
	Julische Alpen	Luschariberg (Latzel)
		Triglav (Penecke) Černa Prst (Penecke) Goriče (Latzel)
Sannthaler Alpen	Krainburg (Latzel)	
	Steiersattel (Penecke) Oistriza (Penecke)	
	Karst	Krainer Schneeberg (Penecke)

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

June 24th, 1896. — 1) A new Family of Australian Fishes. By J. D. Ogilby. (Communicated by Dr. J. C. Cox.) In this paper the author

proposes to segregate in a new family, under the name *Melanotaeniidae*, certain small fresh-water percocoid fishes belonging to the Austrogaean region, which differ from all other members of that group by the structure of the first dorsal fin, which consists of a single stout and pungent ray followed by two or more flexible unarticulated rays; by the thoracic insertion of the ventral fins, &c. Though the propriety of separating certain of these genera in a peculiar family has been recognised by several authors, none of them went further than to suggest names. A diagnosis of the family as understood by the author, and also of the five genera, *Neoatherina*, *Pseudomugil*, *Rhombactrus* (= *Aristeus*) *Aida*, and *Melanotaenia* (= *Nematocentris*) which he includes therein, is given; and it is pointed out that the position of these fishes in the ichthyological system has hitherto been so ill-defined that they have been referred by some authors to the *Atherinidae* (Hardyheads), by others to the *Eleotrinae* (Gudgeons), and by others again to the *Apogonidae* (Soldier-Fishes). In the author's opinion there is no close affinity between these fishes and the *Mugilidae* (Gray Mulletts) as insisted on by some authors; and he prefers to consider them as more nearly related to the *Sphyraenidae* (Sea-Pikes), forming in fact a connecting link between them and the more typical Acanthopterygians, in support of which view he instances the elongated anal and thoracic ventral fins of our common Long-finned Sea-Pike (*Dinolestes*). An interesting list of the known species is furnished, and the hope is expressed that sufficient material may shortly be forthcoming so that a monograph of the family may become possible.—2) New Genera and Species of Australian Fishes. By J. D. Ogilby. (Communicated by Dr. J. C. Cox). Two new fishes collected by Mr. Whitelegge at Maroubra are described as *Macrurhynchus maroubrae*, gen. et. sp. nov., and *Dermatops macrodon*, gen. et. sp. nov.—3) On the Australian *Clivinides* (Fam. *Carabidae*). By T. G. Sloane. Thirty-one new species of *Clivina* are described, bringing the total for Australia up to eighty-three, divisible into thirteen groups, of which, as well as the species, tabulations are given. A new genus *Clivimarcha* is proposed for an insect from the Gulf of Carpentaria.—4) On the Bag-shelters of certain Lepidopterous Larvae of the Genus *Teara*. By W. W. Froggatt. A general account is given of the curious bag-like diurnal shelters fabricated by the gregarious larvae of moths of the genus *Teara*, with particulars of the life-history of *T. contraria* bred from nests obtained near Sydney.—Mrs. Kenyon sent for exhibition, and contributed a note upon, specimens of varietal forms of *Cypraea declivis* and *C. tasmaniensis*.—Mr. Darley exhibited a specimen of rock from Newcastle bored by specimens of *Pholas*, with examples of the molluscs in situ. Also from the roof of a building in Sydney a piece of sheet-lead which had been perforated by Termites.—Mr. Froggatt exhibited drawings and specimens of the larva, pupa, moth, and bag-shelters of *Teara contraria* from Penshurst, near Sydney; in this locality during April many trees of *Acacia prominens* were completely defoliated by the caterpillars, the shelters being placed at the foot of the trees. Also the more substantial silken shelter of a species from Kalgoorlie, W. A.; and a series of specimens of the commoner species of the genus occurring in New South Wales.—The President Mr. Henry Deane, exhibited a rare and remarkable spider, *Actinopus*, sp., forwarded by Mr. A. G. Little, Railway Surveyor, Menindie, N.S.W. This is apparently the first recorded occurrence of the genus in Australia. In respect of the length of the palpi

and the shortness of the abdomen it appears to come nearest to *A. longipalpus* from Brazil.

July 29th, 1896. — 1) Appendix to the Australian *Clivimides* (Fam. *Carabidae*). By Thomas G. Sloane. Since his paper was read (at the June Meeting) the author has had the opportunity of examining the *Clivimides* of King's Sound, W. A., and its vicinity, in the Macleay Museum. The collection comprises sixteen species, of which two are described as new. — 2) Descriptions of new Species of Australian Coleoptera. By Arthur M. Lea. Two genera and thirty-four species belonging to the Families *Tenebrionidae* and *Curculionidae* are described as new. Two very interesting species are noted—an apterous *Pterohelaeus* and a Cossonid having an 8-jointed funicle. — 3) Descriptions of some new *Araneidae* of New South Wales, No. 6. By W. J. Rainbow. Eight species, comprising representatives of the genera *Nephila*, *Epeira*, *Dolomedes*, and *Actinopus*, are described as new. The last named is specially interesting from the fact that it is the first of the genus recorded from Australia. Five of the spiders described are remarkable for their protective colouration or mimicry; in addition to these, numerous other examples are instanced. After summing up all the facts recorded, the writer concludes by dividing the *Araneidae* into two groups, viz.:—1 a) Spiders whose colouration and b) formation is protective: and 2) Spiders that mimic, a) animate or b) inanimate objects, and c) whose colours are attractive. — 4) Description of a new Species of *Ablepharus* from Victoria, with critical Remarks on two other Australian Lizards. By A. H. S. Lucas, M.A., B.Sc., and C. Frost, F.L.S. *Ablepharus rhodonoides*, sp. n., from Mildura, is allied to *A. Greyi*, Gray, by the head-scaling, but in habit it resembles species like *A. Muelleri*, Fischer, and *A. lineatus*, Bell., which are remarkable for the reduction in the size of the limbs, as well as in the number of the digits. *A. Greyi* described from West Australia is recorded from the Boggabri District, N.S.W. *Hemisphaeriodon tasmanicum*, Lucas and Frost (Proceedings, 1893, p. 227), as the outcome of the examination of series of additional specimens, is now reduced to a variety of the very variable *Homolepida casuarineae*, D. and B.—5) On a new Genus and three new Species of Mollusca from New South Wales, New Hebrides, and Western Australia. By John Brazier, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S.—Mr. Edgar R. Waite exhibited a female and eight young of *Phascologale flavipes*, obtained in a weathered hole in a sandstone block on the River Hawkesbury. The nest was entirely composed of dried Eucalyptus leaves. It was mentioned that although it is constantly stated that no true pouch exists in members of the *Phascologale*, this is scarcely correct. When very young the offspring are completely hidden by the outer wall of the pouch closing over them. As they increase in size, the mouth dilates and no longer conceals the young. Mr. Oldfield Thomas evidently does not admit Krefft's statement that the species mentioned is provided with ten teats. Although eight is the usual number, Mr. Waite had seen several females with ten teats, and there is one in the Australian Museum with twelve and a young one on each teat. It would therefore appear that in *Phascologale* the number of mammae is not a constant character, or three otherwise similar species would have to be admitted, characterised by the possession of eight, ten, and twelve mammae respectively.

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