

Trias.—A second paper by Dr. J. W. Gregory related to the classification of the Palaeozoic Ophiurids.—A communication was read from the Rev. O. Pickard Cambridge, F.R.S., containing descriptions of four new or little-known Spiders (Araneidea) from Ceylon, Borneo, and South America.—A communication from Dr. Robert O. Cunningham related to the occurrence of a pair of supernumerary bones in the skull of a Lemur, and to a peculiarity which he had noted in the skull of a young Orang.—A communication was read from Dr. Alph. Dubois, C.M.Z.S., in which he gave the description of a new African Trogon from Lake Tanganyika, proposed to be named *Hapaloderma rufiventris*.—P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

## 2. New York Academy of Science, Biological Section.

December 14, 1896.—Dr. Arnold Graf made a preliminary report on "Some New Fixing Fluids."—Mr. J. H. McGregor, read a paper entitled "An Embryo of *Cryptobranchus*." The embryo described is about 16 millimetres long, and is the first to be recorded of this species. Prominent among its external features are the excessive amount of yolk, the marked ventral flexure in the cervical region and the very early and almost simultaneous appearance of the two pairs of limbs. The dorsal surface is pigmented, the pigment cells being arranged in transverse bands, one band over each metamere of the body. Lateral line sense-organs can be distinguished. Among the most striking internal characters may be mentioned the dorso-ventral flattening of the notochord, the late appearance of entoderm and alimentary organs generally,—due doubtless to the great mass of the yolk. The primordial skull is unusually well developed. The auditory vesicle has an endolymphatic duct ending blindly immediately under the skin on the top of the head. Along the sides of the body a system of organs occurs which are probably homologous with the embryonic sense-organs described by Beard in the sharks.—Dr. J. L. Wortman spoke of the "*Ganodonta*" a new and primitive suborder of the Edentata from the Eocene of North America. One section or family of the suborder, viz.: the Stylinodontidae, is composed of *Hemiganus*, *Psittacotherium*, *Ectoganus* and *Stylinodon* and forms a closely connected and consecutive phylum—reaching from the base of the Puerco to the Bridger formation and leading directly to the Gravigrada or ground sloths. A second family, viz.: the *Conoryctidae*, composed of *Conoryctes* and *Onychodectes* may be regarded as ancestral to the Armadillos. The character and origin of the Edentate fauna of South America was discussed at length and the conclusion reached that its original home was in North America. It was further held that there was a migration to the southward before the close of the Eocene and that there must have then been an early land connection between the two continents.—C. L. Bristol, Secretary.

## 3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

November 25<sup>th</sup>, 1896.—1) On the Comparative Anatomy of the Organ of Jacobson in Marsupials. By R. Broom, M.D., B.Sc. A study of the general anatomy and relation of Jacobson's Organ in representatives of twelve genera has been made, and in most cases at different stages of development. The examination of the different varieties of structure affords evi-

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