

Schema 5. Der Drüsenapparat bei *Halobates flaviventris* var. *Kudrini* (von Prof. N. Nassonow<sup>9</sup> beschrieben). Die einzelnen Säcke und ihre Öffnungen sind verschmolzen und nur die specialen Drüsenabtheilungen unvereinigt geblieben.

Schema 6. Der Drüsenapparat der *Pentatoma nigricornis*. Paarig blieben nur Ausführungscanäle und die Öffnungen; die Säcke und ihre Drüsenabtheilungen sind verschmolzen.

Schema 7. Der Duftapparat von *Cimex lectularius*. Nur die speciellen Drüsenabtheilungen sind ganz verschmolzen.

Meine Arbeit wurde im Zool. Laborat. der Warschauer Universität unter der Leitung Professor Nassonow's ausgeführt, und wird in ihrem ganzen Umfange in »Arbeiten« dieses Laboratoriums für das Jahr 1897 gedruckt werden.

Warschau, 10./22. December 1897.

## 8. Did *Millepora* occur in Tertiary Times?

By Professor Sydney J. Hickson, Manchester.

eingeg. 3. Januar 1898.

I have for some time been endeavouring to obtain fossil specimens of the genus *Millepora* to compare with the species from recent coral reefs, and after much patient search and considerable correspondence with distinguished palaeontologists, I have failed.

The genus *Millepora* is an isolated one among living corals—the patent dimorphism of the pores, the well defined tabulae and the general character of the canal system are features which, taken together, clearly and definitely distinguish it from all other genera. In several Museums I have found fossil corals from tertiary deposits labelled *Millepora*, but in no one of these have I been able to distinguish the feature of dimorphism of the pores, and in other respects the affinities with *Millepora* appear doubtful. I have carefully examined specimens of *Axopora* (Edw. a. H.), and *Porosphaera* (Steinm.), the two genera of fossils which are most usually confounded with *Millepora*, with the result that I feel doubtful whether we are justified in including them even in the Order *Hydrocorallinae*. They are most certainly not allied to the living genus *Millepora*.

On referring to the literature of the subject I can find no description nor figure of a fossil which proves the existence of *Millepora* in tertiary times. The conclusion I have arrived at then is that there is

<sup>9</sup> N. Nassonow, *Halobates flaviventris* var. *Kudrini* nov. var. Entomologische Studien. 1893. (Russisch.)

no evidence that *Millepora* existed further back in history than what may be called geologically recent times.

If this conclusion is justified a question arises which it is difficult to answer. How are we to account for the wide distribution of *Millepora* in the W. Indies, Red Sea, Indian ocean and the Pacific if it had only a recent origin?

I should like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to Herr Professor v. Zittel for his great kindness in allowing me to examine some specimens of corals in the Munich Museum.

## II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

### 1. Zoological Society of London.

14th December, 1897.—The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of November 1897. —Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., offered some further remarks upon the Siluroid Fish, *Vandellia cirrhosa*, and stated that he had made an experiment which satisfied him as to the possibility of the fish penetrating the male human urethra—a habit which has been attributed to it by various travellers in South America. —A communication was read from Dr. A. E. Goeldi, C.M.Z.S., "On *Lepidosiren paradoxa* from the Amazons." This memoir treated of the geographical distribution of the *Lepidosiren* on the Amazons, and of its external structure and dimensions, and gave an account of its habits in a natural and captive state.—Mr. J. Graham Kerr gave an account of his recent expedition, along with Mr. Budgett, to the Chaco of Paraguay in quest of *Lepidosiren*; and made remarks on its habits as there observed. Mr. Kerr also gave a general account of the early stages of its development, drawing special attention to the presence in the larva of external gills and a sucker similar to those of the Amphibia.—A communication was read from Dr. A. G. Butler, F.Z.S., containing a list of 33 species of Butterflies obtained by Mr. F. Gillett in Somaliland during the present year, and giving the dates of the capture of the specimens and their localities.—Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.Z.S., read a paper entitled "On the Mammals obtained by Mr. A. Whyte in North Nyasaland, and presented to the British Museum by Sir H. H. Johnston, K.C.B.; being a fifth contribution to the Mammalogy of Nyasaland." This memoir contained notes on 61 species of Mammals, 4 of which were characterized as new, viz. *Macroscelides brachyrhynchus malosae*, *Crocidura lixa*, *Myosorex soulla*, and *Graphiurus Johnstoni*. —A communication was read from the Rev. O. Pickard Cambridge, F.R.S., describing a new genus and species of Acaridea (*Eatonia scopulifera*) from Algeria.—A communication by Mr. J. Stanley Gardiner, "On some Collections of Corals of the Family *Pocilloporidae* from the Southwest Pacific Ocean," was read by the author. Twenty species of the genus *Pocillopora* and one of the genus *Seriatopora* were enumerated and remarked upon, five species of the former genus being described as new, viz. *Pocillopora septata*, *P. obtusata*, *P. coronata*, *P. rugosa* and *P. glomerata*. —Mr. W. E. de Winton, F.Z.S., gave an account of a collection of Mammals from Morocco, made by Mr. E. Dodson on behalf of Mr. J. I. S. Whitaker.

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