

1<sup>o</sup> Le mesurage et le repérage est le seul rationnel. 2<sup>o</sup> Les données de tous les chariots universels sont nécessairement identiques. 3<sup>o</sup> Un même »chariot universel« bien construit est applicable à tout microscope, n'importe de quelle provenance et de quelle forme, et transportable d'un microscope à l'autre.

La limite que nous avons atteinte alors était une profondeur de 3,7 cm depuis la tige du statif jusqu'au centre de la platine.

Sans changement de la construction, en déplaçant seulement un peu les règles de mesure, nous sommes parvenu aujourd'hui à adapter notre »chariot universel« aux statifs qui n'ont que 3,0 cm de profondeur.

L'idée-mère du système, c. à. d. le mesurage rationnel au moyen des coordonnées, et l'application du chariot à tout microscope, en partant du centre optique coïncidant avec l'origine des coordonnées, est une idée que nous avons été le premier à énoncer.

Le »chariot universel« fonctionne déjà depuis quelques mois à l'Université de Louvain, à l'Université de Leiden, et à la Station zoologique de Naples.

Oudenbosch, 17. Avril 1898.

## 2. Zoological Society of London.

5th April, 1898. —The Acting-Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March 1898, and called attention to an example of the Galapagan Tortoise (*Testudo galapagensis*), deposited by the Hon. Walter Rothschild, F.Z.S. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas exhibited and made remarks on some specimens of a Squirrel (*Sciurus Finlaysoni*) obtained by Mr. Stanley S. Flower at Ayutha, Siam. — Prof. Sydney J. Hickson, F.R.S., read a paper on the species of Corals of the genus *Millepora*. The author stated that 39 species of the genus *Millepora* had been described. A prolonged investigation of the characters hitherto used for the determination of the species had proved them to be all unsatisfactory. An examination of the soft parts of a great many specimens of several forms of growth and from widely distant coasts had revealed no features that could be used for separating species. In the author's opinion, therefore, there was only one species of this genus now living, and that the individuals of this species were capable of assuming a great variety of form, according to the conditions in which they lived. — A communication was read by Mr. J. Stanley Gardiner containing an account of the Perforate Corals collected by him in the South Pacific. Fifty-one species were treated of, of which 15 were described as new. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas read the description of a new Dik-dik allied to *Madoqua Kirkii*, but much larger, which had been obtained by Mr. H. S. H. Cavendish in the region of Lake Rudolf, and was proposed to be called *Madoqua Cavendishii*. — Mr. R. Lydekker, F.R.S., made some remarks on the Geographical Races of the Banting (*Bos sondaicus*), and suggested that the Burmese and Manipur forms of this animal should be given subspecific rank, for which he proposed the respective names of *Bos sondaicus birmanicus* and *B. s. Woodi*.

12th April, 1898.—The sixty-ninth Anniversary Meeting of this Society was held yesterday at their Offices 3 Hanover Square W. The Chair was taken at 4 p.m. by Sir William H. Flower, H.C.B., F.B.S., President of the Society, who was supported by Sir Joseph Fayrer, Bt., Sir John Lubbock, Bt., Sir Albert Rollit, Dr. Henry Woodward, Prof. Seeley, Prof. Howes, Dr. Arthur Keith, and many other Fellows of the Society.—After the Auditor's report had been read, a vote of thanks accorded to them, and other preliminary business had been transacted, the report of the Council on the proceedings of the Society during the past year was read by Mr. P. L. Sclater, F.R.S., the Secretary. It stated that the number of Fellows on the 31st December 1897 was 3158, showing an increase of 60 during the past year. The number of Fellows' names upon the Society's books was at that date larger than it had been at any period since the year 1885.—The occurrence of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 together with the very favourable weather experienced during the summer and autumn of that year had drawn a large number of visitors to the Society's Gardens, and the total income, of the Society had consequently reached the large amount of £ 28,713, being £ 1631 more than in 1896, and greater than that of any year since the year 1884.—The ordinary expenditure of the Society for 1897 had amounted to £ 25,329 which was an increase of £ 1541 over that of the year 1896. Besides this a sum of £ 2,375 had been paid, and charged to Extraordinary Expenditure, having been mainly devoted to new works and new buildings. —A further sum of £1000 had been placed to the Society's Deposit Account, (which now amounted to £ 3,000) and a balance of £1074 had been carried forward to the benefit of the present year. —The usual scientific meetings had been held during the year 1897 and a large number of valuable communications had been received upon every branch of Zoologie. These had been published in the annual volume of »Proceedings«, which contained 1013 pages illustrated by 57 plates. Parts 3. and 4. of the 14th Volume of the Society's Quarto.—»Transactions« had also been published in 1897. The 33rd Volume of the »Zoological Record« (containing a summary of the work done by Zoologists all over the World in 1896) edited by Dr. David Sharp, F.R.S., had been likewise published, and issued to the subscribers in November last. —The Library containing upwards of 20,000 vols. had been maintained in good order throughout the year and had been much resorted to by working Naturalists. A large number of accessions both by gift and purchase had been incorporated into it.—The principal new building opened in the Society's Gardens in 1897 had been the new Ostrich and Crane-house which had been commenced in the autumn of 1896. The final balance due to the Contractors for its erection (£ 1188) had been paid to them in 1897 and charged to Extraordinary Expenditure.—During the past summer also a new Glasshouse for the reception of the Society's collection of Tortoises had been built, adjoining the Reptilehouse, at a total cost of £ 464, and likewise charged to extraordinary expenditure. This amount, however, had been lessened by the sum of £ 150 which the Hon. Walter Rothschild, F.Z.S., who is especially interested in these animals, had kindly contributed towards it. A third new building erected in the Gardens during the past year, and recently opened to the Public, was a new Lavatory which had been built near the Refreshments rooms specially for the accommodation of visitors resorting to that department of the Gardens.—Since the last Anniversary a serious loss

had been caused to the Society's staff by the death on the 7th of May last year of M. A. D. Bartlett, for 38 year Superintendent of the Society's Gardens. In the report made to the General Meeting on 19th May last the Council had already recorded their deep sense of the services rendered to the Society by the late Mr. Bartlett during the long period for which he had held his post, and of their full appreciation of the skill, energy, and faithfulness with which he had discharged the multifarious and difficult duties of his Office. On the present occasion the Council could do no more than repeat the sentiments expressed at that Meeting, which they were sure would be fully concurred in by all the Fellows of the Society. The vacancy thus caused had been filled up by the appointment as Superintendent, of Mr. Bartlett's second son, Mr. Clarence Bartlett, who had been in the Society's service for 36 years as his father's assistant.—The number of visitors to the Gardens in 1897 had been 717,755, being 52,751 more than the corresponding number in 1896.—The number of animals on the 31st December last had been 2585, of which 792 were Mammals, 1362 Birds, 431 Reptiles & Batrachians.—Amongst the additions made during the past year, seventeen were specially commented upon as being of remarkable interest, and in most cases new to the Society's Collection.—The report concluded with a long list of Donations to the Menagerie received in 1897.—A vote of thanks to the Council for their report was then moved by Sir John Lubbock Bt., F.R.S., seconded by Mr. R. Lydekker, F.R.S., and carried unanimously.—The Meeting then proceeded to elect the new Members of Council and the Officers for the ensuing year. The usual ballot having been taken it was announced that Frank E. Beddard, Esq., F.R.S., William T. Blanford, Esq., L.L.D., F.R.S., Richard Lydekker, Esq., F.R.S., Howard Saunders, Esq. and Charles S. Tomes, Esq., F.R.S., had been elected into the Council in the place of the retiring Members, and that Sir William H. Flower K.C.B., F.R.S., had been reelected President, Charles Drummond, Esq., Treasurer, and Philip Lutley Sclater, Esq., M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S., as Secretary to the Society for the ensuing year.—The Meeting terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman which was proposed by Dr. H. Woodward F.R.S., seconded by Sir Joseph Fayrer, Bt., F.R.S., and carried unanimously.

19th April, 1898.—Mr. Ernest W. L. Hold exhibited some advanced larve of the luminous fish *Scopelus glacialis*, bearing a dorsal expansion of the skin, which was believed to act as a float. The specimens had been collected by Dr. G. H. Fowler in the Faroë Channel.—On behalf of the Hon. Walter Rothschild, F.Z.S., there was exhibited a fine mounted specimen of the Ribbon-fish, *Regalecus argenteus* (?), from Dunedin, New Zealand, intended for the Tring Museum.—Mr. Sclater made remarks on some of the principal animals observed during recent visits to the Zoological Garden of Marseilles and to the Jardin d'Acclimatation at Paris.—Mr. Ernest W. L. Hold read a paper on the breeding of the Dragonet (*Callionymus lyra*) in the Marine Biological Association's Aquarium at Plymouth, and made some remarks on the significance of the sexual dimorphism of this fish, the courtship and pairing of which were described in detail. The female was described as a promiscuous polyandrist, and seemed to exercise no sort of choice, taking the nearest male which appeared to be in a condition to further her object. The males were much more numerous, as well as larger, than the females. The brilliant yellow colour of the mature male was



due to an excess of yellow pigment, which diffused into the skin. It had an acrid smell and was highly irritating to the salivary glands. The blue colour was due to the optical properties of masses of "reflecting tissue" over a background of black chromatophores. Mr. Holt considered that the large fins and bright colours of the male of the Dragonet had been evolved by sexual selection proceeding on the lines of conspicuousness rather than on those of aesthetic charms, since the male seemed to be unable to see the female except at a very short distance, and the converse would no doubt hold good if the male were not conspicuously coloured. — A communication from the Rev. H. S. Gorham, F.Z.S., contained an account of the Serricorn Coleoptera of St. Vincent, Grenada, and the Grenadines, obtained through the operation of the West India Committee of the Royal Society and the British Association, for the exploration of the Fauna of the West Indies. Forty-two species of the subfamilies *Lycidae*, *Lampyridae*, *Telephoridae*, *Cleridae*, *Melyridae*, and *Bostrychidae* were treated of in this paper, of which 19 were described as new. — A second communication from the Rev. H. S. Gorham on the Coleoptera of the families *Erotylidae*, *Endomychidae*, and *Coccinellidae* from the West Indies, obtained in the same manner, was also read. It contained an account of 22 species of these families, of which 7 were described as new. — A communication was read from Dr. Bashford Dean, describing further evidence of the existence of possible paired fins in the problematical Devonian organism *Palaeospondylus*. He maintained his former views, as opposed to those of Dr. R. H. Traquair expressed in a former communication to the Society. Mr. Smith Woodward, in communicating this paper, remarked that he was inclined to agree with Dr. Traquair's interpretation of the markings on the stone round the skeletons of *Palaeospondylus* as entirely due to inorganic agencies. In support of this view he exhibited the specimen from Dr. Traquair's collection noticed by Dr. Dean.

3rd May, 1898. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of April 1898, and called attention to two birds presented by Dr. E. A. Goeldi, C.M.Z.S., One was a hybrid between a Guinea-fowl (*Numida meleagris* ♂) and a Domestic Fowl (*Gallus domesticus* ♀); the other was a Curassow, and had been identified as probably the male of *Crax pinima* of Natterer. — Mr. Sclater exhibited three pairs of horns from the Gambia, sent to him for examination by Sir R. B. Llewelyn, which he referred to *Bubalus planiceros*, *Hippotragus equinus*, and *Oreas derbianus*. Mr. Sclater also enumerated the 14 species of Antelopes known to occur in the Gambia, and remarked that further modern information on the animals of this colony would be very desirable. — A note was read from the Rev. O. Pickard Cambridge, F.R.S., calling attention to the fact that the term *Eatonina* proposed by him for a new genus of Acaridea (P.Z.S. 1897, p. 939) had previously been employed for a genus of Brachiopoda. The name *Eatoniana* was proposed in its stead. — Sir Harry Johnston, K.C.B., F.Z.S., made remarks on the larger Mammals of Tunisia, and selected for special mention the Lion, Leopard, Cheetah, Wild Cat, Caracal Lynx. Hyæna, Jackal, Fennec and Common Foxes, Genet, Ichneumon, Porcupine, Barbary Wild Sheep, Addax Antelope, Hartebeest, and three Gazelles. He mentioned the possibility of the *Leucoryx* penetrating into Southern Tunisia, and noted the importation into Tunis from Morocco of a Baboon (*Cynocephalus hamadryas*?), which was brought there by natives of Morocco. He

also commented on the representations of the African Elephant as a Tunisian animal in the Roman mosaics. — A communication was read from Prof. Robert Collet, F.M.Z.S., containing descriptions of three species of Pigeons and two species of Parrots from Northern Australia, of which the following were characterized as new:—*Petrophassa rufipennis*, *Ptilopus (Leucotreron) alligator*, and *Psephotus dissimilis*. — A communication was read from Mr. W. T. Blanford, F.R.S., stating his reasons for regarding *Lepus oiostolus* Hodgs. and *L. pallipes* Hodgs. as identical, suggesting that the Hare identified with *L. oiostolus* by Büchner was *L. hypsilaeus* Blanford, and showing that *Macacus rhesus villosus* True was identical with *M. assamensis* M'Clelland. — A communication was read from Dr. F. A. Dixey, Mr. Malcolm Burr, F.Z.S., and the Rev. O. Pickard Cambridge, F.R.S., on the Insects and Arachnida collected in Socotra by Mr. E. N. Bennett, who had visited that island in 1896 and 1897 in company with the late Mr. Theodore Bent. The following new species were described in this paper:—Lepidoptera—*Byblia Boydi* and *Papilio Bennetti*; Orthoptera—*Pocilocera socotranus* and *Landreva* sp. inc.; Arachnida—*Nephila Bennetti*, *Gasteracantha sodalis*, *Selenops diversus*, and *Tetrognatha Boydi*. It was pointed out that though the Socotran Lepidoptera showed, as might have been expected, strongly marked African affinities, some of them, by their relation to forms belonging to West Africa and South Africa and the Mascarene group, suggested the conclusion that remains of a more primitive fauna still survived in Socotra. — A communication was read from Miss E. M. Sharpe on a collection of Lepidoptera from San Domingo. This was accompanied by field-notes by the collector, Dr. Cuthbert Christy. Ninety-one species were enumerated, of which one—*Telegonus Christyi*—was described as new. — A second communication from Miss Sharpe contained a list of Lepidoptera lately collected by Mrs. Lort Phillips in Somali-land. Two new species of *Lycaenidae* were described, viz. *Tarucus Louisae* and *Spindacis waggae*. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

### 3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

March 30th, 1898. — The Twenty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Linnean Hall, Ithaca Road, Elizabeth Bay, on Wednesday evening, March 30th, 1898. — Professor J. T. Wilson, M.B., Ch.M., President, in the Chair. The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were read and confirmed. — The President then delivered the Annual Address, in which, firstly, the more important events of the past Session were summarised. Forty-nine papers had been read, and most of them had been published. Nine Ordinary Members had been elected into the Society; and one resignation had been received. Reference was made to the death of Mr. R. C. Walker, late Principal Librarian of the Public Library, Sydney, an original Member; of Sir Patrick Jennings, K.C.M.G., also an original Member; of Professor Jeffery Parker, D.Sc., F.R.S., of Dunedin, a Corresponding Member; and of the Venerable Archdeacon R. L. King, B.A., some time President of the Entomological Society of New South Wales, and who actively co-operated with Sir William Macleay carrying on the work of that Society. The announcement of the Hon. Dr. Norton's resignation of the responsible office of Hon. Treasurer, and of the appointment of Mr. P. N. Trebeck as his successor was made, with appreciative reference to the Society's

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