

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

great indebtedness to Dr. Norton for his valuable services cheerfully rendered without intermission since January, 1882. Two important matters which had been dealt with were the revision and extension of the Society's Rules; and the appointment of the first Macleay Bacteriologist, the successful candidate being Mr. R. Greig Smith, B.Sc., Edin., M.Sc., Dun., F.C.S., Lecturer in Agricultural Chemistry in the Durham College of Science, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who had been selected out of nine applicants for the position. The President took the opportunity of tendering the Society's hearty congratulations to Professor David and his coadjutors on the success attained in the recent coral-reef-boring operations at Funafuti, and its best wishes for complete success in any supplementary operations that may become possible. Allusion was made also to the successful Meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science in this city in January last, and to the work done in Section D., Biology. — The remainder of the Address was devoted to a consideration of certain of the more general ideas of biological thought. The value of the idea of purpose in experimental science was discussed along with the place of the conception of mechanism in general evolution theory, and more especially in the later phases of human evolution.

Monthly Meeting. 3 botanical Papers were read.

4. American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Die fünfzigste Jahresversammlung wird in Boston, Mass., vom 22. bis 27. August abgehalten werden. Leider sind die gewählten Tage dieselben, an welchen sich in Cambridge der vierte internationale Zoologen-Congreß versammeln wird.

5. Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft.

Die achte Jahres-Versammlung

findet

vom 1. bis 3. Juni 1898

in

Heidelberg

statt.

Allgemeines Programm:

Dienstag den 31. Mai Abends von 8 Uhr an:

Zwanglose Vereinigung zu gegenseitiger Begrüßung im »Stadtgarten«.

Mittwoch den 1. Juni 9 Uhr Morgens:

Erste Sitzung.

- 1) Eröffnung durch den Vorsitzenden, Herrn Geh. Rath. Prof. Dr. F. E. Schulze.
- 2) Geschäftsbericht des Schriftführers.
- 3) Referat.

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