

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

Linnean Society of New South Wales.

November 30th, 1898. — 1) and 2) Botanical. — 3) Ethnological. — 4) A Contribution to the Development of the Common Phalanger. By R. Broom, M.D., B.Sc. Six rather late stages of the intra-uterine foetus, and eight early stages of the mammary foetus of *Trichosurus vulpecula* are described and figured, with remarks on the breeding habits of the species. The membranes of the intra-uterine stages described were torn or displaced, and in only one case moderately intact, but in this specimen no trace of a placenta was found, nor did the allantois appear to reach the uterine mucous membrane. — 5) Additions to the Fauna of Lord Howe Island. By J. Douglas Ogilby. Descriptions of five new species of fishes are given, namely, *Howella Brodiei*, *Machaerope latispinis*, *Diancistrus longifilis*, *Salarias insulae*, and *S. alboapicalis*; for the first three new genera are proposed, while for *H. Brodiei* the author has found it necessary to institute a separate family allied to *Holocentridae*; *Machaerope* is a gempylid allied to *Nealotus*, *Diancistrus* a brotulid near *Dinemichthys*. The accuracy of Günther's identification of Valenciennes' *Salarias variolosus* with the species he figures in the 'Fische der Südsee' is questioned, and exception is taken to the identity of the Lord Howe Island and Maroubra *Monacanthus* determined as *M. nitens*. — 6) Revision of the Genus *Paropsis*. Part iv. By Rev. T. Blackburn, B.A., Corr. Mem. Subgroup iv. of the species forming Group vi. of the genus (as characterised in the Proceedings for 1896. p. 638) is dealt with. Fifty-six names have been assigned to species belonging to the subgroup, of which ten must be regarded as mere synonyms. Nine species are unknown to the author; thirty-seven have been identified, and fourteen are described as new. — 7) Contributions to a Knowledge of the Australian Crustacean Fauna. No. i. Observations on the Genus *Neptunus*. By David G. Stead. A general account is given of the habits, characteristics, and structure of the common edible crab, *Neptunus pelagicus*, M.-Ed., and its ally *N. sanguinolentus*, Herbst. As in certain other Brachyuran genera, three forms are met with—males, females, and sterile females, and these are described at some length. The author also gives it as opinion that two other Sydney species, *Ozius truncatus*, M.-Ed., and *Platyonychus bipustulatus*, M.-Ed., will be found to present an analogous state of things. — 8) and 9) Botanical. — Mr. Hedley contributed a Note recording an interesting addition to the fauna of N.S. Wales in *Liotia lodderae*, Petterd, of which he had obtained several specimens on Balmoral Beach, near Sydney. The species was described by Petterd in the Journal of Conchology, iv. 1884. p. 135, from the Leven Heads, Tasmania, and has since been found in South Australia and Victoria. — Mr. Edgar R. Waite exhibited two examples of a Dung Beetle (*Aulacopris Reichei*, White) he had obtained in the Yessabah Caves on the Macleay River. These caves are peopled with Bats whose droppings, from their roosting places, form large mounds upon the floor of the cave, at the base of which the beetles were found. Each had excavated a small hollow wherein the dung balls were deposited. One beetle was discovered with seven balls and the other with nine. On examining one of the series it was seen that while the ball at the time being formed contained an egg, others were in various stages of development, indicating that considerable time is absorbed in forming the whole series of balls.

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