

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

16th May, 1899.—The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of April 1899, and called special attention to a young male Giraffe of the southern form (*Giraffa camelopardalis capensis*) acquired by purchase, to four Masked Hawfinches (*Coccothraustes personatus*), from Japan, also obtained by purchase, and to three female Ostriches of the northern form (*Struthio camelus*), presented by Mr. G. Fanshawe Abadie.—The Secretary read extracts from letters received from Mr. J. S. Budgett, F.Z.S., containing an account of the progress of his expedition to the Gambia, and announcing his proposed return in July next.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., exhibited a specimen of the Bornean Lizard (*Lanthanotus borneensis*), belonging to the Sarawak Museum, and remarked that it was the second example of this Reptile that had reached Europe. An examination of the specimen had confirmed Mr. Boulenger's suspicion that its affinities were with the *Helodermatidae*, and that it was not, as its original describer (Steindachner) had supposed, entitled to family rank by itself.—Mr. G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton, F.Z.S., exhibited the skins of two Hares (*Lepus variabilis*), and made some remarks on the winter whitening of Mammals in connexion therewith.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., read an account of the Fishes obtained by the Congo Free State Expedition, under Lieut. Lemaire, in Lake Tanganyika, in 1898. Ten new species were described, of which three were made the types of new genera.—Mr. E. M. Corner read a note on the variations of the patella in the Divers, Grebes, and Cormorants, by which the functions of the bones in these birds were explained.—A communication was read from Mr. Stanley S. Flower, F.Z.S., containing notes on a second collection of Reptiles made in the Malay Peninsula and Siam, from November 1896 to September 1898, and a list of the species recorded from those countries. The species enumerated in the paper were 221, of which one was the type of a new species, described under the name of *Typhlops Floweri* by Mr. G. A. Boulenger.—A communication was read from Marquis Ivera on the Wild Goats of the Aegean Islands. A series of heads and some photographs of the Goats of the islands of Antimilo and Joura were exhibited with the object of showing that the effect of a cross between *Capra aegagrus* and *C. hircus* (such as had been proved to have occurred on the former island) was not to produce an animal corresponding to *C. dorcas* (Reichenow), and that consequently the Goat of Joura had not, as was generally assumed, been so produced, but was, as a matter of fact, a local variety of the Wild Goat, for which the name *C. aegragus*, var. *jourensis*, was suggested.—Mr. W. Cunningham read a paper on a new Brachyuran Crustacean from Lake Tanganyika, obtained by Mr. J. E. S. Moore, for which he proposed the name *Limnotelphusa maculata*. The Crab, unlike its nearest allies, was wholly aquatic, and would seem to be the most primitive member of the Telphusine group.—A paper was read by Mr. W. T. Calman, B.Sc., on some Macrurous Crustaceans obtained by Mr. J. E. S. Moore in Lake Tanganyika. A new genus (*Limnocaridina tanganyikae*) and a new species of *Palaemon* (*P. Moorei*) were described, it being pointed out that neither of them furnished any particular facts bearing on the general question of the origin of the Tanganyikan fauna.—P. L. Selater, Secretary.

June 6th, 1899. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of May 1899, and called special attention to a young male specimen of the Mountain Zebra (*Equus zebra*), acquired by purchase on May 6th, and to an example of the Musk-Duck (*Biziura lobata*), also obtained by purchase on May 30th. — The Secretary also exhibited and made remarks on sketches of the Cape Jumping-Hare (*Pedetes caffer*) and the Carunculated Bell-bird (*Chasmorhynchus carunculatus*), taken from specimens living in the Society's Gardens. — Mr. Selater exhibited photographs of the female specimen of Grevy's Zebra now living in the Gardens of the Société d'Acclimatation, Paris; and read a letter from Capt. J. L. Harrington, H.B.M. Envoy to Abyssinia, in which he expressed a hope to be able to bring living examples of this animal home with him when he returned to this country. — Mr. A. Blaynay Percival, F.Z.S., exhibited and made remarks upon some specimens of birds and insects which he had recently brought from the southern districts of British Central Africa. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., exhibited some living specimens of a Siluroid Fish, the "Harmut" (*Clarias lazera* C. & V.), from Damietta, Egypt, collected by Mr. W. L. S. Loat, F.Z.S., which were believed to be the first examples of this curious fish imported alive to this country. — Dr. S. F. Harmer, F.R.S., gave an account of specimens of the remains of a Deer in the collection of the University Museum of Zoology at Cambridge, obtained from the Forest-Bed series at Pakefield, near Lowestoft, and belonging to the form usually known as *Cercus verticornis* Dawk. The cranial portion of the skull was well preserved, and the antlers had a spread of six feet, measured in a straight line. The question of nomenclature was considered, with the result that *C. verticornis* of the Forest-Bed was shown to be, probably, not identical with *C. carnutorum* Laug., but a synonym of *C. Belgrandi* Lart. — Dr. A. Günther, F.R.S., gave an account of a collection of Freshwater Fishes made by Mr. R. B. N. Walker, C.M.Z.S., in the rivers of the Gold Coast. The collection, though a small one, was of considerable interest, as it contained specimens of several forms previously unknown from the Gold Coast. It had led the author to prepare a critical revision of the Gaboon species of *Chrysichthys*, which were numerous and difficult of discrimination. Eight new species were described in this paper, viz. *Petersius occidentalis* and seven species of *Chrysichthys*. — A communication was read from Dr. R. O. Cunningham, C.M.Z.S., containing notes on the structure of Laborde's Shark (*Euprotomierus Labordii*), an example of which had recently been presented to the Museum of Queen's College, Belfast. — A communication was read from Mr. J. Stanley Gardiner, F.Z.S., containing an account of the Astraeid Corals which he had collected in the South Pacific. The collection contained specimens of 12 genera and 48 species, 6 of the latter being new to science. — A communication was read from Dr. W. T. Blanford, F.R.S., containing the characters of several species of shells of the genera *Streptaxis* and *Ennea* from India, Ceylon, and Burma. Of the former genus three species were described as new, bringing up the number of species of this genus, described from Southern India, to eleven. Of the genus *Ennea* two new species were described. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

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