

vita libera, anzichè deporre le uova isolate l'una dall' altra formi invece un cocon in cui siano contenute almeno due uova.

Abbiamo già altri esempj di Enchitreidi che formano cocons racchiudenti più di un uovo, così l'*Enchytraeus humiculator* Vejd. (= *Ench. Möbii* Mich.) ed il *Pachydrilus lineatus* O. F. Müller (= *P. germanicus* Mich.); anzi di quest' ultimo Michaelsen dice che potè osservare i cocons racchiudenti »entwickelte Junge und frisch ausgeschlüpfte Thiere«⁶. Anche la pretesa cisti del *P. catanensis* conteneva due individui piccolissimi con tutti i caratteri della specie cui appartenevano; credo dunque che anche quì si tratti di due »entwickelte Junge und frisch ausgeschlüpfte *Pachydrilus catanensis*«.

Cosicchè possiamo concludere con tutta probabilità che il *Pachydrilus catanensis* Drago nel passare dallo stadio di embrione a quello di verme adulto non attraversa una fase di incistamento, ma segue lo stesso ciclo di sviluppo degli individui della famiglia cui appartiene, ciclo di sviluppo riconosciuto generale per tutti i componenti l'ordine degli Oligocheti.

Dal Laboratorio di Zoologia e Anatomia comparata della R. Università di Torino,
25. Agosto 1899.

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

Linnean Society of New South Wales.

July 26th, 1899. — 1) and 2) Botanical. — 3) A Zoogeographic Scheme for the Mid-Pacific. By Charles Hedley, F.L.S. This paper is the result of recent research on the fauna of Funafuti. It is suggested that the Australasian Region of most writers would be more naturally grouped into, firstly, Australia and Tasmania; secondly, the Melanesian Region; and, thirdly, Polynesia. The Melanesian Region comprises New Guinea and the larger islands of the West Pacific, and its fauna is derived firstly from a Malayan element which reached it through New Guinea, and secondly from an Antarctic element which arrived by way of New Zealand. Proof is advanced to show that Fiji is strictly continental, and that it was from this outpost of the Melanesian Plateau that the Polynesian fauna was chiefly derived. A second line of migration into Polynesia is traced through Micronesia. An analysis of the fauna of the Mid-Pacific shows that all its components are fitted for extensive travel by flight or drift, and the various means of transit are discussed. — Mr. D. G. Stead exhibited specimens of Hawkesbury sandstone 1) from the sea shore between tide marks showing the tunnelling of marine Isopods (*Sphaeroma*), with the living animals in situ; and 2) from the hill-tops overlooking Port Jackson, offering examples of the borings which so often attract notice, and the production of which has been attributed to Hy-

⁶ Michaelsen, op. cit. p. 9.

menoptera, and also to Termites. Since last meeting Mr. Stead reported that he had investigated the matter, and that, after breaking up a quantity of stone, he had come upon Termites, of a species at present undetermined, actually at work. Of these he exhibited specimens. — Mr. Stead also stated that he had been informed by Captain Wallace, who had shown him the bird, that on 5th May last, while the s.s. Perthshire was drifting about in a disabled condition, about 500 miles from the nearest land (Cape Howe), a common bronze-wing pigeon flew on board in an exhausted condition.

III. Personal-Notizen.

Necrologe.

Am 24. Mai starb in Regensburg Anton Schmid im fast vollendeten 90. Lebensjahre. Er war ein trefflicher Lepidopterolog.

Am 1. Juli starb in London Sir William Henry Flower, Director der naturhistorischen Abtheilung des Britischen Museums. Er war am 30. Nov. 1831 in Stratford geboren, studierte am University College in London Medicin, machte als Regimentsarzt den Krimkrieg mit und erhielt 1859 die Stelle eines Assistenzarztes und Lehrers der Anatomie am Middlesex Hospital. 1860 kam er als Conservator an das Hunter'sche Museum im Royal College of Surgeons, an welchem er 1870 Owen's Nachfolger als Professor der vergleichenden Anatomie und Physiologie wurde. Als 1884 Owen die Stellung als Director der naturhistorischen Abtheilung des British Museums niederlegte, wurde er auch hier Owen's Nachfolger. Sein Gesundheitszustand veranlaßte ihn, im August 1898 diese Stellung (ebenso wie den Vorsitz des IV. internationalen zoologischen Congresses) aufzugeben.

Am 17. Juli starb in Siena der Cav. Sigismondo Brogi am Schlagfluß. Er war Herausgeber der Rivista Italiana di Scienze Naturali, des damit verbundenen Bollettino del Naturalista Collettore ecc. und der »Avicula«.

Am 26. Juli starb in Paris E. G. Balbiani, Inhaber der (1836 für Coste gegründeten) Professur für Embryogénie comparée, ausgezeichneter Mikroskopiker.

Am 1. August starb in Great Cotes-House (Lincolnshire) John Cordeaux, der um das Studium des Zuges der Vögel sehr verdiente Ornitholog (geboren 1836).

Berichtigung.

In dem Aufsatz von W. Hein (Zool. Anz. No. 595) ist auf p. 353, Zeile 9 von unten »central« zu lesen, anstatt ventral.

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1899

Band/Volume: [22](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Hedley Charles

Artikel/Article: [Linnean Society of New South Wales. 383-384](#)