

chen fehlen sie völlig in dem ganzen Bereiche des renalen Hodennetzes und noch eine Strecke hinter dem Aufhören dieses. Wenn man dann weiter nach hinten geht, treten theils vereinzelt Nephrostomen mit sehr langem Trichteranal auf, theils recht zahlreich, offenbar aus umgebildeten Nephrostomen hervorgegangene Gebilde: Flimmercanäle, die sowohl ohne Verbindung mit der Niere als mit der Bauchhöhle sind und in beiden Enden blind geschlossene kurze Canäle in dem peritonealen Überzug der Niere darstellen.

Daß die Niere von *Amia* im larvalen Zustand mit Nephrostomen ausgestattet ist, habe ich früher gezeigt (Zool. Anz. 1894), und daß solche auch den Larven von *Lepidosteus* und *Acipenser* zukommen, wurde für erstere von Balfour, Parker und Beard, für *Acip.* von Balfour und mir nachgewiesen; aber bei den erwachsenen Thieren sollen sie angeblich fehlen, was auch von *Calamoichthys* (Lebedinsky, Arch. Mikr. Anat. u. Entw. 44. Bd.) und, wie oben gesagt, *Polypterus* gilt. *Amia* wäre somit die einzige Ganoidenform, wo diese Bildungen bis jetzt als persistierend nachgewiesen sind.

Der vor dem blinden Vorderende des Nierenganges gelegene Theil der Niere besteht nur aus lymphoidem Gewebe mit Blutgefäßen; die von mir bei der Larve dargestellte Vorniere ist demnach bei dem erwachsenen Thiere völlig obliteriert.

28. April 1900.

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

May 8th, 1900. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of April 1900, and called special attention to a young Lyre-bird (*Menura superba*) presented on April 12th, and to a Ural Owl (*Syrnium uralense*) acquired by purchase on April 24th. — Mr. Sclater exhibited a mounted specimen of a male Reedbuck, which had been obtained by Mr. Ewart S. Grogan on the Songwé River, north of Lake Nyasa. The specimen was of about the same size as the Common Reedbuck (*Cervicapra arundinum*), but differed from that species in several important points. Mr. Sclater considered it referable to a new species, and proposed to name it *Cervicapra thomasina*. — Mr. C. Davies Sherborn, F.Z.S., made some remarks on the progress of his 'Index Generum et Specierum Animalium', of which he expected the first portion (1758—1800), containing about 60,000 entries, to be ready for publication at the end of this year. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., read a paper on the Batrachians and Reptiles collected by Mr. G. L. Bates in the Gaboon (French Congo), among which were specimens of 10 new species and 5 new genera of the former, and of 1 new species of the latter, which were described. These descriptions were incorporated with a list of the previously known species from the Gaboon, by which it was shown that the Batrachians known from this country reached 39 in number and the Reptiles 80. — Mr. W. R. Ogilvie Grant read a paper on the birds of Hainan, based on a collection sent home by the late Mr. John Whitehead from the Five-Finger Mountains in the interior of the island. Examples of many

interesting species had been procured, which were either new to science or to the fauna of the island. Among the former, which numbered 11, were mentioned a splendid Silver Pheasant, a remarkable Night-Heron, and a peculiar brown-and-white Jay of the genus *Urocissa*. The paper contained a complete account of the avifauna of Hainan as known at the present time. — Mr. Philip Crowley, F.Z.S., read a paper on the Rhopalocera collected by the late Mr. John Whitehead on the Five-Finger Mountains in the interior of Hainan. Specimens of 108 species were contained in the collection, of which 8 were described as new, and many others were recorded from that island for the first time. — Mr. J. S. Budgett, F.Z.S., read a paper entitled "Some Points in the Anatomy of *Polypterus*", as deduced from an examination of specimens lately procured by the author in the River Gambia. The urinogenital organs of the male and female *Polypterus* were described in detail; those of the male, it was believed, for the first time, while the description now given of the genital ducts in the female did not entirely agree with those of previous writers. The later stages in the formation of these organs were also described, and it was shown that the condition found in the Ganoid *Lepidosteus*, where the products of the testis are carried away by the tubules of the kidney, was not primitive. Some new points of interest in the vascular system were communicated, and reasons were given for not regarding the external gill of *Polypterus* as homologous with the hyoidean pseudobranch of *Acipenser*, but rather with the external gill of the Dipnoi and the Amphibia. The formation of the abdominal pores of *Polypterus* was also described, and the use of the enlarged anal fin of the male in the breeding-season was discussed. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger gave a list of the Fishes collected by Mr. J. S. Budgett, F.Z.S., during his recent expedition to the Gambia. Among these were examples of two new species, which were proposed to be named *Clarius Budgetti* and *Synodontis ocellifer*. Altogether specimens of 42 species of Fishes were obtained by Mr. Budgett from the river. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

March 28th, 1900. — 1) Descriptions of new Australian Lepidoptera By Oswald B. Lower. Thirty-nine species, referable to the families *Syn-tomidæ*, *Caradrinidæ*, *Ocneridæ*, *Selidosemidæ*, *Psychidæ*, *Zeuzeridæ*, *Ecophoridæ*, *Gelechiadæ*, and *Plutellidæ* are described. — 2) Descriptions of two new Lepidoptera (Rhopalocera) from New South Wales. By G. A. Waterhouse. A species of *Ogyris* from Como, near Sydney, and one of *Hesperilla*, from Mount Kembla, are described. The sexes of the former correspond in the same way as do those of *O. abrota*. The second insect is allied to *H. picta*, Leach. — 3) Botanical. — 4) On the Skeleton of the Snout and Os carunculæ of the Mammary Fœtus of Monotremes. By Professor J. T. Wilson, M.B., Ch.M. For the research three specimens were utilised. One was the fœtal *Ornithorhynchus*, whose external characters were described by the writer in a previous paper before the Society. Another was a more advanced specimen of *Ornithorhynchus*, whilst the third was an *Echidna* of about the same stage as the earlier of Professor W. N. Parker's specimens. All the stages were more advanced than those of *Echidna* lately investigated by Seydel. Wax-plate reconstructions of the anterior snout

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