

IV. Gatt. *Anurophorus* Nic.

Anurophorus laricis Nic., selten in größeren Höhlen, gemein in kleineren, trockenen Höhlen (hauptsächlich im Slouper-Thale, Punkvathale etc.) unter Holz etc.

Prag, am 18. Juni 1900.

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

May 22nd, 1900. — The Secretary announced that Mr. J. S. Budgett, F.Z.S., had started on a second expedition to the Gambia, in order to continue his studies of the Fish-fauna of that colony, and especially to further investigate the life-history and development of the anomalous forms *Polypterus* and *Protopterus*. — A communication was read from Prof. G. B. Howes, F.R.S., and Mr. H. H. Swinnerton, B.Sc., on the development of the skeleton of the Tuatera, *Sphenodon* (*Hatteria*) *punctatus*, which was stated to be the outcome of 18 months' work on materials supplied to the authors by Prof. Dendy, of Christchurch, N.Z. An account was given of the egg, the hatching, and the habits of the hatched young, which the authors reared till four months old. Thus a stage (T) was added to Prof. Dendy's series. The main conclusions arrived at were stated to be as follows: — Two orders of intra-centra are formed, of which one persists as the chevrons. The cartilaginous vertebral bodies arise as paired structures, and the intra-vertebral plates are chordal in origin. Inter-vertebral plates are formed in the tail, and the intra-vertebral plates have a special relation to the "splitting" process; also a series of central chordal vesicles is formed at the points of greatest flexibility. The "uncinates" are mostly separate in origin. The brain-case is a product of the union of distinct ethmo- and otosphenoidal cartilages, and its fenestrae are primary. The trabeculae represent a pair of pre-oral visceral arches, and the epipterygoid bone is an ossification of the ascending process of the pterygo-quadrate cartilage. The columella auris and stapedial processes are at all stages continuous with the hyoid arch, and that is attached only to the quadrate above. The meeting of the pterygoids and vomers is of an order leading to the Chelonia and Plesiosauria, and the ptery-quadrate cartilage closely resembles that of *Ichthyophis*. The "abdominal ribs" arise by numerous calcifications and their median segment may be paired. There is no supra-temporal bone present at any stage. The hip-girdle is simpler than in the Lacertilians and two types of pelvis are represented. There is no trace of the fifth *tarsale* in the ontogeny, and while a *centrale* is incorporated in the "*astragalus*" there are three *centralia carpi* represented during development. Two types of cheek-teeth, and the sustentacular ligaments which support the medulla and spinal cord, were also described. — The Malacostracan Crustacea collected by Mr. Rupert Vallentin, F.L.S., at the Falkland Islands, from December 1898 to February 1899, formed the subject of a paper by the Rev. T. R. R. Stebbing, F.R.S. Many of the species had long been known, as several scientific expeditions had been made to these islands during this century. This carefully made

collection, however, had afforded a much needed opportunity for discussing and clearing up obscure points in some of the earlier descriptions of the Crustacean fauna. — Mr. L. A. Borradaile, F.Z.S., read the fourth instalment of his memoir on Crustaceans from the South Pacific. This part contained an account of the Crabs, of which 77 species were enumerated. Seven new species were described, and a scheme of classification of the swimming Crabs (*Portunidae*) was put forward. — A communication was read from Dr. R. Bowdler Sharpe, which contained an enumeration of the birds—56 species in all—collected during the Mackinder Expedition to Mount Kenya, accompanied by field-notes of the collectors. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F.R.S., read a paper entitled “A Revision of the Earthworm Genus *Amyntas*.” According to the author, this genus comprised 102 species, which were enumerated and commented upon. — Mr. Beddard also read a paper on the structure of a new species of Earthworm, which he proposed to name *Benhamia Budgetti*, after its discoverer, Mr. J. S. Budgett, who had obtained two specimens of it at M’Carthy’s Island during his recent visit to the Gambia. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

April 25th, 1900. — 1) and 2) Botanical. — 3) Studies on Australian Mollusca. Part i. By C. Hedley, F.L.S. Two genera and several species of marine mollusca are here introduced as new. Some species already described, but not figured or insufficiently known, are now illustrated and more fully described. — 4) 5) and 6) Botanical. — Mr. Froggatt exhibited, and contributed a Note on, a fine mounted series of twelve species of Australian Ticks, determined by Professor Neumann, of Toulouse, comprising the following: — *Ixodes hylocyclus*, Neum., the common bush tick about Sydney and elsewhere; *I. ornithorynchi*, Lucas, from the Platypus; *Rhipicephalus annulatus*, Say, var. *australis*, the Queensland cattle tick; *Amblyomma moreliae*, L. Koch, from a kangaroo, and also from horses; *A. triguttatum*, C. L. Koch, from cattle; *Aponomma hydrosauri*, Denny, from a lizard and from an echidna; *A. decorosum*, L. Koch, from a snake; *A. trimaculatum*, Lucas, from cattle; *A. cinctum*, n. sp., from beetles; *Haemaphysalis Leachi*, Aud., from horses; *H. longicornis*, n. sp., from cattle; *Argas americanus*, Packd., the fowl tick. — Mr. C. W. Darley exhibited a portion of the timbers of a punt, showing the depredations of an Isopod which had been determined by the authorities of the Australian Museum to be the destructive “Gribble,” *Limnoria lignorum*, Rathke (= *L. terebrans*, Leach), not previously recorded from Australian waters, and therefore presumably introduced from Europe or America. — Mr. Stead exhibited an ant (*Iridomyrmex purpureus*), and a piece of quartz, relatively much bulkier than the animal, which it has been observed to lift bodily. — Mr. Palmer exhibited a very perfect cast skin of a snake from the Blue Mountains. — Mr. Trebeck showed a good specimen of the rattle of *Crotalus horridus*, from British Columbia. — Mr. Fletcher exhibited five specimens (♂ 2; ♀ 3) of a *Peripatus* with fourteen pairs of walking legs, the males with white papillae on the legs of the posterior nine pairs, from the North Island of New Zealand. The specimens were obtained by Mr. C. T. Musson near Te Aroha in the early part of last January. They will probably prove to be referable to the species for which Professor Dendy

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1900

Band/Volume: [23](#)

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Artikel/Article: [Zoological Society of London. 414-415](#)