

Golfes in den einzelnen Jahreszeiten durch das Vorkommen folgender Formen characterisieren:

Winterplankton:

Diatomeen, *Sticholonche*, Tintinnen, *Polygordius*-Larve, *Salpa mucron.-democr.*

Frühlingsplankton:

Actinienlarven, *Tornaria*, Molluskenlarven.

Sommerplankton:

Actinometra, *Nausithoe*, *Zoeen*, Jungfische.

Herbstplankton:

große Medusenformen.

Auf den schematischen Character einer solchen Eintheilung brauchen wir wohl nicht erst aufmerksam zu machen. Ein Blick auf die Tabelle zeigt, daß die einzelnen Formen bald früher, bald um Monate verspätet auftreten oder ein, ja gar mehrere Jahre ausbleiben, daß »Fremdlinge« plötzlich erscheinen, seltene Thiere mit einem Male häufig werden, häufige selten. Wir dürfen hoffen, daß uns für das Warum dieser Erscheinung die neu aufblühende ethologische Forschung bald eine befriedigende Erklärung giebt.

Grundbedingung für die Lösung solcher Fragen ist aber gleichzeitige Beobachtung an verschiedenen Orten und gleichmäßiges Studium aller muthmaßlichen Factoren. Der einzelne Forscher wird solchen Problemen immer rathlos gegenüberstehen.

Triest, den 31. December 1900.

II. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

February 5th, 1901. — Before opening the meeting the Chairman made some feeling remarks on the great loss suffered by the Society by the death of her late Majesty Queen Victoria, Patroness of the Society, and a frequent Donor of valuable animals to the Menagerie. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of January 1901, and called special attention to the acquisition of three examples of the Open-bill (*Anastomus oscitans*), a species new to the Society's Collection. — Mr. Sclater called attention to the fine specimen of Prjevalsky's Horse (*Equus Prjevalskii*) now mounted and exhibited in the Gallery of the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle of Paris, and made some remarks on its structure and peculiarities. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas gave an account of the Mammals which he and Mr. R. I. Pocock had collected during a trip to the Balearic Islands in the spring of 1899. Twenty-four species were enumerated and remarked upon, amongst which was a new form of Hedgehog, described as *Erinaceus algirus vagans*. — Dr. W. G. Ridewood, F.Z.S.,

read a paper on the horny excrescence on the snout of the Southern Right Whale (*Balaena australis*), known to whalers as the "Bonnet", in which he showed that the minute structure is the same in essential features as that of the stratum corneum of the normal skin of the Whale. The cuticular fibres were set at right angles to the surface, and were not sharply differentiated nor readily separable. Comparisons were drawn by the author between the structure of this horny excrescence and that of the nasal horn of the Rhinoceros, the hoof of the Horse, the horn of the Ox, and the baleen of the Whale. — Mr. G. A. Bouleenger, F.R.S., enumerated the species of Batrachians and Reptiles represented in a collection made by Dr. Donaldson Smith in Somaliland in 1899. Of the Reptiles two were new to science and were described under the names *Hemidactylus laevis* and *H. barodanus*. — Mr. Sclater made some additional remarks on the two pieces of Zebra-skin, exhibited at a previous meeting, which had been sent to him by Sir H. H. Johnston, K.C.B., from the Semleki Forest on the borders of the Uganda Protectorate, and expressed his opinion that they belonged to a hitherto unknown species, for which he proposed the provisional name of *Equus Johnstoni*. — Mr. J. L. Bonhote read a paper on a second collection of Siamese Mammals made by Mr. Th. H. Lyle, Consul at Nau, Siam. The collection, although small, was of considerable interest, the 20 specimens composing it being referable to 11 species, one of which, *Sciurus Maclellandi kongensis*, was described as new. This race was most nearly allied to *Sc. m. Barbei*, but might be distinguished by its much greyer coloration and the paler colour of the yellow stripes. The type had been procured by Mr. Lyle at Rahong. A seasonal change in *Funambulus Berdmorei* was also described, Gray's type of *Sc. Mouhoti* being an example of that species in summer. Other remarks were also made on *Sc. Finlaysoni*, which apparently offered an example of extreme polymorphism. — Mr. Bonhote also communicated a paper containing an enumeration of the 139 species of birds of which specimens had been collected during the "Skeat Expedition" to the Malay Peninsula in 1899—1900. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F.R.S., described a new species of Freshwater Annelid, under the name of *Bothrioneuron iris*, from specimens obtained in the Malay Peninsula during the "Skeat Expedition" in 1899—1900. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. V. Internationaler Zoologencongres in Berlin

12.—16. August 1901.

Unter dem Protectorat Sr. Kaiserl. und Königl. Hoheit des Konprinzen
des Deutschen Reiches und von Preußen.

Der im August des Jahres 1897 in Cambridge abgehaltene IV. Internationale Zoologencongress beschloß, den V. internationalen Congress in Deutschland stattfinden zu lassen. Die Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft erhielt die Ermächtigung, den Ort und den Präsidenten für diesen Congress zu bestimmen; sie wählte Berlin und ernannte zum Vorsitzenden Herrn Geh. Regierungsrath Prof. Dr. K. Möbius, zum Stellvertreter des Vorsitzenden Herrn Geh. Regierungsrath Prof. Dr. F. E. Schulze.

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