

read some notes on the genito-urinary system in the male *Lepidosiren* and *Protopterus*, in which he gave an illustrated account of the more important anatomical features of the organs. Mr. Kerr dwelt particularly on the presence in both *Lepidosiren* and *Protopterus* of very definite remains of a testicular network, and pointed out that the presence in all three Dipnoi of the connection between the testis and the kidney gave greatly increased probability to the view that this connection is a very ancient and primitive feature of Gnathostomatous Vertebrates. Mr. Kerr also pointed out that the conditions in the Dipnoi shed considerable light upon the relations of testis and testis-duct in the Crossopterygians and the Teleosts. — A communication was read from Mr. Alfred E. Pease, M.P., F.Z.S., containing some field-notes on the Antelopes obtained during his expedition to Somaliland and Southern Abyssinia in 1900—1901. P. S. Sclater, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

1) Descriptions of New Species of Australian Coleoptera. By A. M. Lea, Government Entomologist, Tasmania. — Mr. T. Steel exhibited the following specimens of interest from New Zealand:—Maori Rat, *Mus exulans*; New Zealand Frog, *Liopelma Hochstetteri*; Tuatara Lizard, *Hatteria punctata*; Lizard, *Nautilinus ornatus*; Fish, *Acanthoclinus litorius* and another little fish with sucker disc, found very abundantly under stones between tides in Auckland Harbour; Porcelain Crab, *Petrolisthes elongatus*, found in excessive abundance associated with above fishes; Fresh-water Crab, *Hymeniscus varius*; Fresh-water Shells, *Potamopyrgus coralla*, *P. antipodum*, *P. cumingiana*, *P. pupoides*, *Latia neritoides*; Fresh-water Sponge, *Spongilla* (sp.?), fine large specimens from Lake Takapuna, Auckland; Pteropod, *Cavolina affinis*. — Mr. David G. Stead exhibited a portion of a hardwood wharfpile, bored by the *Teredo* or "Ship-worm," which had been excavated from Lower Pitt-street during the recent sewerage operations at a depth of about 12ft. Although the pile must have been embedded in the mud for a great number of years, it was in an excellent state of preservation. He also showed the ova of a large "Australian Cray-fish" (*Astacopsis serratus*, Shaw), and of *Ibacus Peronii*, a somewhat uncommon Crustacean, from Port Jackson. Also a specimen of the beautiful little *Octopus pictus*, which frequents rock-pools along our shores. — Mr. W. W. Froggatt exhibited a collection of Lac-producing Coccids of the genus *Tachardia*, containing all the Australian species except one, and all the foreign species except three. Also several undetermined native species, among them several probably new. The lac insects are well known in commerce, as from *Tachardia lacca* of India 25000 tons of lac are collected in India alone. The tests of the sexes are very distinct; those of the males are slender, thin and turned up at the apices, where the opening is covered with a thin plate. The female surrounds herself with a mass more or less rounded, in the centre of which she remains glued to the bark. Without legs or antennae, she is provided with two curious tubes on the dorsal surface known as the lac tubes. — Mr. Percy Williams exhibited a large specimen of a "Funeral Stone" from Wilcannia, together with a drawing of the same. The characters and lines were described, and the exhibitor propounded a theory that it was probably an historical record of a Chief or King of a tribe, or of a tribe itself. — Mr. G. A. Waterhouse exhibited specimens of Rhopalocera, viz.:—*Liphya brassolis*, Westw., *Casyapa beata*, Hew., *Mynes Geoffroyi*, Bois.

September 25th, 1901. — 1) Arachnida from the South Seas. By W. J. Rainbow, F.L.S., Entomologist to the Australian Museum. The species of Arachnida collected by Mr. J. J. Walker, R.N., F.L.S., F.E.S., during a cruise of H.M.S. "Ringarooma" to the South Sea Islands during the months of June, July, August and September, 1900, are herein recorded. Thirty-four species are enumerated, of which four are described as new, namely: — *Leptodrassus insulanus*, *Argyrodes Walkeri*, *Diaea bipunctata*, and *D. regale*. The most interesting of them is *L. insulanus*, as it records a new *mis*, locality for the genus. 2) On the Systematic Position of *Purpura tritoniformis*. By H. L. Kesteven. Reasons are given for removing *P. tritoniformis* from *Urosalpinx* and *Cominella* and transferring it to *Purpura*. In selecting the subgenus of the latter for its reception, the resemblance of the larval shell and in anatomical characters to *P. succincta* cause the writer to place it in *Trochia*. The names *Adamsia* and *Agnewia* consequently lapse into the synonymy of *Trochia*. — Mr. Froggatt exhibited specimens of the two sexes of the large spiny Phasmid, *Extatosoma tiaratum*, MacL. The female is not uncommon in the coastal scrubs, but the male is comparatively rare. — Mr. Rainbow exhibited specimens and gave an account of the habits of a common but interesting spider, *Desis marina*, Camb., which on the shores of Port Jackson, as also in New Zealand and New Caledonia, lives in holes between tide-marks. During the periods of its immersion it comes to the surface when necessary and carries down bubbles of air. — Mr. Fletcher exhibited copies of the two published books, and some interesting relics, of John William Lewin, "naturalist and painter," who settled in New South Wales in 1798; and whose remains until recently reposed in what was the Devonshire Street Cemetery. The exhibit included a few of Lewin's undoubtedly very numerous unpublished drawings; also early impressions of some of his published illustrations of birds and insects which were engraved, printed and coloured in the Colony; accompanying them are his MS. observations on the animals which served as the basis of the text which was printed in England: these are now in the possession of the Society. A sketch of Lewin's career as colonist, artist, zoological collector and field naturalist was given.

III. Personal-Notizen.

Necrolog.

Am 15. September starb in Folge des Kenterns eines Bootes an der Küste von Irland Martin F. Woodward, ein viel versprechender junger Zoologe, Sohn des Dr. Henry Woodward, Brit. Mus., und Assistent von Prof. G. B. Howes am Royal College of Science, London.

Am 28. Juni starb in Willis, New Mexico, Francis J. Birtwell, in Folge eines Sturzes. Er war September 1880 in London, Engl., geboren, kam früh nach Nord-Amerika und zeichnete sich als vorzüglicher ornithologischer Beobachter aus.

Am 9./22. November starb in St.-Petersburg der Akademiker, Professor Alexander Kowalevsky, der durch vortreffliche Arbeiten bekannte Forscher. Er war am 7./19. November 1840 geboren. Nach einer Erkrankung von nur drei Tagen, während derer er das Bewußtsein nicht wieder erlangt hat, erlag er den Folgen einer Apoplexie.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1901

Band/Volume: [25](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonym

Artikel/Article: [Linnean Society of New South Wales. 31-32](#)