

of a Gruiform type, characterized by the presence of a pair of septomaxillary spurs. The schizognathous palates showed a modification of the original form of schizognathy in the suppression of the septomaxillary spurs. The desmognathism of the Falconiformes was of two kinds, indirect and direct, the latter being characteristic of the Falcons. This was a group furthermore peculiar in that they had suppressed the hemipterygoid — an element which was still quite distinct in all the other members of the Order. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F.R.S., read a paper dealing with the sexual differences observed in the windpipe of the Condor. It also treated of a rudimentary equivalent of the septal flap of the right auriculo-ventricular valve met with in the hearts of that bird and of a form of Cuckoo (*Scythrops*). — A paper by Mr. Hesketh Prichard, F.Z.S., on the larger Mammals of Patagonia, contained field-notes on the Huemul (*Xenelaphus bisulcus*), the Puma (*Felis concolor*), Pearson's Puma (*Felis concolor* Pearsoni), the Patagonian Cavy (*Cavia patagonica*), and the Guanaco. The extraordinary tameness of the Huemul was dwelt upon. The habits of the Grey Puma (*Felis concolor*) were described, a contrast being pointed out between their method of killing their prey and that of the Jaguar (*Felis onca*). Pearson's Puma, a new subspecies of Puma, was alluded to as being much rarer than the Grey Puma, smaller, fiercer, and in colour reddish at the extremities. The fact of the distribution of the Cavy (*Cavia patagonica*) being arbitrarily limited in the neighbourhood of the 45th parallel of latitude was commented upon as being strange, inasmuch as there was no change either in the vegetation or in the nature of the ground to account for it. The habits of the Guanaco were also referred to at length. — Mr. F. Pickard Cambridge, F.Z.S., read a paper on the Spiders of the genus *Latrodectus*, which had a universally bad reputation of being extremely venomous in various parts of the world, although more exact evidence was required on this question. A list of the recognized species and subspecies was given. — A paper by Mr. Frank Finn, F.Z.S., contained some notes on the Painted Snipe (*Rostratula capensis*) and the Pheasant-tailed Jacana (*Hydrophasianus chirurgus*), of which birds he had recently presented some specimens to the Society's Gardens. — A paper by Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., contained descriptions of eight new species of Fishes from the Congo, forming part of a collection entrusted to him for study by the Director of the Royal Museum of Natural History in Brussels. The paper also contained a list of 41 species of Fishes from the Lindi River, Upper Congo, collected by M. Maurice Storms for the Brussels Museum. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

## 2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

March 26th, 1902. — 1) A Note on two species of *Astraliun* from Port Jackson. By H. Leighton Kesteven. The author finds that *Astraliun fimbriatum*, Lamarck, and *A. tentoriforme*, Jonas, have, in Port Jackson, been united under the latter name. He finds that in the nepionic stage the former is very depressed, almost discoidal, and perspectively umbilicate; whilst the latter is trochiform and not umbilicate, at the same stage. They present the anomaly of two species easily separable in the nepionic stage, becoming so alike in the adult condition, that only by their opercula can some specimens be identified. — 2) Studies on Australian Mollusca. Pt. vi.

By C. Hedley, F.L.S. Material from tropical Queensland furnishes two genera, *Congria* and *Micolitia*, new to Australia; as well as sundry small forms of *Pyrgulina*, *Crossei* and *Liotia*, new to science. As a result of a recent visit to Tasmania, and a study of southern forms, the writer is enabled to recognise from the waters of Sydney Harbour a considerable number of species not previously known to range so far north. The examination of the land-shells of the Chevert Expedition is continued and concluded; some of these are illustrated and their systematic position rectified. In conclusion, certain Australian species described in 1811 are discussed and the restoration of the names then imposed is advocated.

### 3. Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft.

Vorträge und Demonstrationen für die diesjährige Versammlung in Gießen, 20. bis 22. Mai, haben noch angemeldet:

Prof. H. E. Ziegler (Jena): Nochmals über die Zelltheilung.

Dr. L. Reh (Hamburg): Die Zoologie im Pflanzenschutz.

Dr. H. Krauß (Tübingen): 1) Orthopteren aus der Sahara.

2) *Physemophorus (Poecilocerus) socotranus*, eine Feldheuschrecke mit Leuchtpapille.

Der Schriftführer

E. Korschelt.

## III. Personal-Notizen.

### Bitte.

Hierdurch richte ich an die verehrten Herren Fachgenossen die dringende Bitte, alle für die Murmanexpedition oder mich persönlich bestimmten Briefe und Drucksachen stets nur an Herrn Consul Sören J. Meyer, Vardö Norwegen, senden zu wollen.

Dr. L. L. Breitfuß,

Leiter der wissenschaftl. Expedition an der Murmanküste.

Alexandrowsk, Gouv. Archangelsk, Rußland.

### Necrolog.

Am 3. Januar 1902 starb in Zi-ka-wai bei Chang-hai P. Petrus Heude, S. J., ein französischer Missionär und Naturforscher, im Alter von 66 Jahren. Er hat sich um die Erforschung Chinas und der Nachbarländer durch seine zahlreichen Reisen große Verdienste erworben. Seine Hauptwerke sind: *La Conchyliologie fluviatile de Chine* (Paris, 1875—1885) und *Mémoires concernant l'histoire naturelle de l'Empire chinois* (Chang-hai, 1882—1901); letztere enthalten hauptsächlich odontologische und osteologische Studien über die Säugethiere Ostasiens. (E. Wasman, S. J.)

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1901

Band/Volume: [25](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonym

Artikel/Article: [Linnean Society of New South Wales. 399-400](#)