

## 2. Zoological Society of London.

June 3rd, 1902. — Mr. William Sclater, F.Z.S., made some remarks on the present condition and future prospects of the Zoological Museums of South Africa, altogether eight in number, most of which he had recently visited. — Mr. Lydekker exhibited the mounted head of a male Siberian Wapiti, and made remarks on the various forms of the Wapiti met with in Northern Asia. — Mr. G. A. Boulenger, F.R.S., exhibited a strap made of the skin of the Okapi (*Okapia Johnstoni*), which had been received in Belgium from the Mangbetta country (lat. 30° N., long. 28° E.) in December 1899, a year previous to the arrival in this country of the two bandoliers upon which the name "*Equus Johnstoni*" had been founded. — Dr. Forsyth Major, F.Z.S., exhibited a reduced photograph of the skin of a female Okapi (*Okapia Johnstoni*), recently received by the Congo State Museum at Brussels, together with the skeleton of a male. Dr. Forsyth Major also made some remarks on this material, which had been handed over to him for publication. — Mr. E. J. Bles, F.Z.S., exhibited and made remarks upon some living Tadpoles of the Cape Clawed Frog (*Xenopus laevis*). This species had bred in the Society's Gardens, and the event had formed the subject of a paper in the Society's 'Proceedings' by Mr. F. E. Beddard (cf. P.Z.S. 1894, p. 101), but Mr. Bles was able to supply some additional particulars. — Mr. Lydekker described the head and skin of a Wild Sheep from the Thian Shan, recently presented by Mr. St. George Littledale to the British Museum, as belonging to a new subspecies, which he proposed to call *Ovis sairensis Littledalei*. He also exhibited and described a specimen of the Sheep named by Severtzoff *Ovis borealis*, which had been brought home by Mr. Talbot Clifton from the Yana Valley. — A communication was read from Dr. R. Broom, C.M.Z.S., containing an account of the differences exhibited in the skulls of Dicynodonts from the Karroo deposits of South Africa. The author was of opinion that these differences, in many cases, were not specific, but were due to sex, and, consequently, that many of the specimens which had received specific rank really belonged to the same form. — Mr. F. E. Beddard, F.R.S., read a paper on the Gonad Ducts and Nephridia of the Annelid Worm *Eudrilus*, in which supplementary facts to those already ascertained by previous authors concerning these organs were adduced. — Dr. C. I. Forsyth Major, F.Z.S., read a paper on the Pigmy Hippopotamus from the Pleistocene of Cyprus, in which he described the fossil remains of *Hippopotamus minutus* Blainv., exhibited by the author at the meeting of the Society on April 15th. The characteristic features of this primitive Hippopotamus were pointed out and reasons were given for the assumption that the type specimens of the species, Cuvier's "*Petit Hippopotame fossile*", supposed to have been found near Dax in the Landes, had been brought over from Cyprus. — Mr. Hamilton H. Druce, F.Z.S., contributed a paper containing remarks on several species of Butterflies of the family Lycaenidae from Australia, especially in reference to those described by Herr Semper. He also read descriptions of several apparently new species of the same family from the Eastern Islands and from Africa. — Mr. R. I. Pocock, F.Z.S., read a paper which dealt with the habits of the littoral Spiders belonging to the genus *Desis*. The seven known species were enumerated, and one of them was described as new, under the name

*Desis Kenyonae*. — Mr. H. R. Hogg contributed a paper which contained additional information concerning the Australian Spiders of the suborder Mygalomorphae. Out of a collection of forty specimens (comprising examples of eleven species and nine genera) received by the author no less than nine species and five genera had proved to be new, and were described in this paper. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

### 3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

May 28th, 1901. 1) Descriptions of new Genera and Species of Lepidoptera (Fam. *Noctuidae*). By A. Jefferies Turner, M.D., F.E.S. Twenty genera and about eighty-seven species are described as new. — 2) and 4) Botanical. 3) Geological. — Mr. D. G. Stead exhibited specimens and offered remarks upon the characteristics and habits of two Port Jackson fishes, the so-called Doctor- or Surgeon-Fish (*Prionurus microlepidotus* Lacep.) and the Flute-mouth (*Fistularia serrata* Cuv.). — Mr. Froggatt exhibited and offered remarks upon specimens of a flea (*Echidnophaga ambulans* Olliff.) from a native cat (*Dasyurus viverrinus* Shaw), a species originally made known as a parasite of a Monotreme (*Echidna aculeata*). Also photographs of a flea procured from a bandicoot (*Perameles*), showing the characters of *Stephanocircus dasyuri* Skuse, described from the native cat. — Mr. North contributed a Note on some Northern and Northwestern Australian Grass Finches; and he exhibited skins and eggs of *Sisura nana* and *Rhipidura dryas* from the Northern Territory of South Australia. The egg of *Sisura nana* is of a dull buffywhite groundcolour irregularly spotted and blotched with umberbrown, and similar underlying markings of of greyish-lilac which form an irregular band around the larger end. Length  $0,71 \times 0,5$  inches. The egg of *Rhipidura dryas* is of a dull yellowish-white groundcolour with an indistinct zone of confluent spots and blotches of dark yellowish-brown, and bluish-grey around the thicker end. Length  $0,65 \times 0,52$  inches. The specimens described are from the collection of Mr. C. French, junr. Also a skin of a Grass Finch from Wyndham, North-western Australia, differing only from *Poephila acuticauda* Gould in having the bill rich orange-scarlet instead of pale wax-yellow. This is regarded as at least a very distinct variety which it is proposed to distinguish under the name of *Poephila aurantiistrotris*. — Mr. H. L. Kesteven exhibited specimens, and contributed a list, of sixteen species of Mollusca of the Family *Rissoiidae* from Moreton Bay, Queensland, none of which had previously been recorded from that state.



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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1901

Band/Volume: [25](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Sclater Philip Lutley

Artikel/Article: [Zoological Society of London. 567-568](#)