

Dr. Francis Day read a paper »On the Instincts and Emotions in Fish«. He observes that during the last few years while biologists have given attention to the faculties of many animals those of fish have received but scant attention: even of late Cuvier's estimate of their total want of intelligence is quoted as authentic by English authorities. The author endeavours to combat this notion and proceeds to relate examples coming under his own cognizance as well as quotes many writers in evidence of what may be regarded as piscine emotions and affections. He shows for instance they are both monogamous and polygamous, construct peculiar nests, occasionally carry about their eggs, protect and defend their young with great vigour, often exhibit affection for one another, recognise human beings and can be tamed, manifest fear, anger, hatred and revenge, in certain instances they utter sounds, they often have quite remarkable modes of defence and not only hide themselves when danger warns but even betake themselves to the bodies of other animals for protection, some leave the water for food and lastly widely separated families will at times unite and form combinations for attack and defence. Notwithstanding these and many other intelligent acts fish as might be anticipated have not the reasoning faculties so acutely developed as in the other higher races of the Vertebrata. Still it would appear we are justified in claiming for some of the finny tribe, that they have attachments wether in the form of conjugal feeling, paternal and maternal affections or else of platonic friendship.

IV. Personal-Notizen.

Australia. — New South Wales.

Sidney: Australian Museum. Curator: E. P. Ramsay.

(An der Universität existirt keine Professur für Zoologie od. Palaeontologie.)

Victoria.

Melbourne: University. Fred. MacCoy, F. G. S., Professor of Natural Science and Curator of the Museum, also Government Palaeontologist.

South Australia.

Adelaide: University. Rolph Tate, Professor of Geology.

The Museum. F. G. Waterhouse, F. G. S., Curator.

Queensland.

Brisbane. Museum: F. Staiger, Curator.

Tasmania.

Hobart Town. Museum: Dr. Agnew, Secretary.

New Zealand.

Auckland. Museum: T. Cheeseman, Curator and Secretary.

Wellington. Museum: Dr. James Hector, F. R. S., Director of the Geological Survey, Curator.

Christchurch. Museum: Dr. Jul. von Haast, F. R. S., Director.

Dunedin. Museum: Capt. H. Wollaston Hutton, Curator; Prof. of Geology in the University.

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Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1879

Band/Volume: [2](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonymous

Artikel/Article: [IV. Personal-Notizen 624](#)