

2. Zoological Society of London,

2nd Decbr. 1879. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of October, amongst which special attention was called to a specimen of Elliot's Guinea-fowl (*Numida ellioti*), received from Eastern Africa. — A letter was read from Mr. E. L. Layard, F.Z.S., advocating the desirability of a fixed scale of colour for use among Naturalists, in describing the plumage and pelage of birds and other animals. — A letter was read from Mr. R. B. White, C.M.Z.S., of Medellin, U. S. of Colombia, S.A., on a mode of protecting plantations from the ravages of an ant (*Atta cephalotes*). — A communication was read from Dr. G. E. Dobson, C.M.Z.S., containing notes on some species of Chiroptera, from Zanzibar, with descriptions of new and rare species. — A communication was read from the Prince Ladislas Lubomirski, containing the description of a collection of Shells made in High Peru, by Messrs. Jelski and Stolzman. — Mr. G. French Angas, C.M.Z.S., read a paper in which he gave the descriptions of two new species of *Helix* (*Eurycratera*) from S.E. Betsileo, Madagascar. — Mr. Arthur G. Butler, F.Z.S., read a paper on some Arachnida of Madagascar and the Mascarene Islands in which an account was given of a collection of Spiders recently received by the British Museum from Réunion and Mauritius, through Mr. H. H. Slater. — Lieut.-Colonel H. H. Godwin-Austen, F.Z.S., and Mr. G. Nevill, C.M.Z.S., gave descriptions of two collections of Land shells obtained at Perak and in the Nicobar Islands by Surgeon-Major E. Townsend and Dr. F. Stolzka. — A communication was read from Dr. A. Günther, F.R.S., containing a notice of a collection of Mammals and Reptiles recently received from Cyprus by Lord Lilford. — Dr. F. Day, F.Z.S., read a paper upon the Fishes of Weston-super-Mare, a locality he had lately visited in order to enquire into some species described by Yarrell and Couch as found on this coast. Mr. Day also gave some account of the results of Lord Ducie's trawling investigations in Ballinskelle Bay, on the Coast of Ireland, and described a specimen of the Long Flounder received from Mr. M. Dunn of Mevagissy in Cornwall. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of London.

4th December 1879. — Mr. W. Carruther's exhibited a bottle of Pteropods, *Spirialis retroversus*, obtained in great abundance on the surface of the water of the Gareloch, Rossshire, Scotland, July 1879 by Dr. John Grieve. A letter from the latter was read giving an account of some of the habits of these interesting animals. They swam rapidly to the surface rising with a perpendicular fluttering motion, and having reached it raised the winglike appendages above their heads and thus upholding them motionless, would then drop quietly to the bottom. Some would stop half way down and paddle back to the surface, again to descend as above mentioned, but seldom or ever did they swim along the surface of the water. Dr. Grieve mentions that he did not observe them use their wings as feet to walk or crawl along the bottom as Agassiz states. — Prof. P. M. Duncan made a communication »On a Synthetic type of Ophiurid from the N. Atlantic«. The specimen in question was dredged by Dr. Wallich in the Voyage of H. M. S. , Bull Dog' 1860. On casual inspection it might be regarded as an Amphiuroid

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1879

Band/Volume: [2](#)

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Artikel/Article: [2. Zoological Society of London 671](#)