

when full-grown, they fully equalled in size. — Mr. E. W. H. Holdsworth exhibited a specimen of White's Thrush (*Turdus varius*), killed in South Devonshire in January last. — Mr. C. O. Waterhouse read a paper on the Coleopterous Insects belonging to the family *Hispidae*, collected by Mr. Buckley in Ecuador. Seventeen species of *Hispidae* had hitherto been recorded as inhabiting that country; of these Mr. Buckley had met with fifteen, which, together with nineteen new species, made a total of thirty-six species in the series now described. — Mr. W. L. Distant read a paper on some additions which had been lately made to the Rhynchotal Fauna of the Ethiopian Region, nine new species belonging to the families *Pentatomidae*, *Coreidae* and *Pyrrhocoridae* were pointed out, and in the *Coreidae* two new genera, allied to *Petillia* and *Petascelis*, were described. The specimens had been obtained from Western, Southern, and Eastern Africa. — A communication was read from Mr. Edgar A. Smith on some shells from lakes Tanganyika and Nyassa and from other localities in East Africa, lately received by the British Museum. Great interest attached to some of the shells from Lake Tanganyika, from the fact that they had all the appearance of being modified marine types. — Lord Walsingham read a paper on some new and little known species of North American Tineidae, amongst which were three new generic forms. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of London.

Nov. 18, 1880. — Dr. Geo. E. Dobson exhibited a remarkable parasitic worm from the intestines of *Megaderma frons*, from the Gold Coast. It appears allied to *Pterygodermatis plagiostoma* Wedl, from the Long-eared Hedgehog, though on first hasty examination he (Dr. Dobson) had been disposed to regard it as a new genus, *Metabdella*. Dr. Mac Donald further drew attention to its peculiar anatomical structure and relationships. Dr. Cobbold agreed to the importance of the observations as verifying previous discoveries, with addition of novel structural details. He considered the worm as identical with the *Ophistomum* of Rudolphi and Willemoes-Suhm, with *Pterygodermatis* of Wedl, and with *Rictularia* of Frölich, and he regarded it as an aberrant member of the Ophistomidae, whereas Wedl thought it came nearest the Cheirocanthidea. — Dr. Cobbold also exhibited specimens of *Distoma crassum* Busk (previously in 1875 shown to the Society), from a Chinese missionary who, on return to China with his wife and daughter, were again all attacked by the parasite, and obliged to return to England. — A paper on the classification of the Gasteropoda (P. 2.) was read by Dr. J. Dennis Mac Donald. In this communication the author gives further data in support of his mode of arranging the group dependent on anatomical characters.

Dec. 2, 1880. — Mr. George Brook exhibited specimens of the phosphorescent *Noctiluca miliaris*, taken from the surface of the sea at the mouth of the Thames, and immediately thereafter placed in a weak solution of osmic acid, when shape etc., was perfectly retained. — Prof. T. Spencer Cobbold drew attention to a specimen of a rare Chinese fluke (*Distoma sinense*), showing the internal organs, especially the vitellary sacs, ova, and reproductive parts generally. — A paper »Notes on British Tunicata« (Ascididae, part 1.) by Mr. W. A. Herdman, was read by the Secretary.

The simple Ascidians in the present family have generally a non-folded branchial sac with internal longitudinal bars, an eight-lobed branchial aperture and six-lobed anal aperture. Of the British genera *Ciona*, *Ascidia* and *Corella*, the first and third have a series of languets along the dorsal edge of the branchial sac, whilst the second has a continuous lamina: the first two agree in the straight stigmata of the branchial sac as distinguished from the third, in which they are curved. Each differs, moreover, in the course and position of its alimentary canal. Describing the latter peculiarities aided by diagrammatic figures, the author thereafter proceeds to treat of a number of species of the genus *Ascidia*; among others the following six are recognised as being new, viz. *A. lata*, *A. fusiformis*, *A. truncata*, *A. triangularis*, *A. Patoni* and *A. innominata*. The series was obtained at Loch Long and Arran in Scotland. — The seventh contribution to the Mollusca of the 'Challenger'-Expedition, by the Rev. R. Boog Watson, was read in abstract. This contains descriptions of species of the genera *Aelis*, *Fenella* and *Dunkeria*, family Pyramidellida; of the genus *Oniscia*, family Cassidida; and of the genera *Triton*, *Ranella* and *Nassaria*, family Tritonida.

IV. Personal-Notizen.

Bologna. — Der durch die Berufung des Professors Trinchese nach Neapel erledigte Lehrstuhl für Zoologie an der Universität Bologna ist nach stattgehabtem Concourse dem Professor C. Emery (bisher Professor der Zoologie in Cagliari) übertragen worden.

Breslau. — Die durch den Tod E. Grube's erledigte Professur der Zoologie ist dem Professor Ant. Schneider (bisher in Gießen) übertragen worden.

Gießen. — Dr. Hubert Ludwig, bisher Director der naturwissenschaftlichen Sammlungen in Bremen ist als ordentlicher Professor der Zoologie und vergleichenden Anatomie an die Universität Gießen berufen worden und wird Mitte April dorthin übersiedeln.

Straßburg i. E. — Nach dem Tode des Prof. Schimper ist die Leitung der geologischen Abtheilung des naturhistorischen Museums der Stadt Straßburg dem Prof. Benecke übertragen worden, während zum Director der zoologischen Abtheilung Prof. Goette ernannt ist.

Buenos Aires. — Durch ein Decret der Nationalen Regierung ist Buenos Aires, bis jetzt provisorische Hauptstadt des Landes, zur definitiven Hauptstadt der Argentinischen Republik erhoben. In Folge dieses Decrets wird der Sitz aller nationalen Bureaux nach Buenos Aires verlegt und wird also forthin Buenos Aires auch Sitz des Vorstandes der »Nationalen Akademie der Wissenschaften« sein. Die Zusammenstellung des Vorstandes und der Tag der Übersiedelung des Bureaus wird später mitgetheilt werden. Auch die »Argentinische Zoologische Gesellschaft« hat sich entschlossen, ihren Vorstand nach Buenos Aires zu verlegen.

Necrolog.

Ende October 1880 starb auf seinem Landsitz in der Nähe von Wellington, Shropshire, Thom. Campbell Eytton. Er war im Jahre 1809 ge-

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