

vessels possessed of a structure hitherto only met with in the placenta of *Choloepus Hoffmanni* among the Edentates.

6) That *Procyon* differs from every other Carnivore, the foetus of which has been hitherto examined, in the non-possession by the latter of an umbilical vesicle.

7) That *Procyon* differs from all Carnivora, of which the young have been hitherto examined, in as much as the foetus is provided with a supernumerary cuticle or Epitrichium — a structure, which has only been met with in the young of certain members of other mammalian groups.

From an examination of the various facts detailed in the paper the author arrives at the conclusion that a consideration of the modifications in form and structure of the placenta alone is insufficient as affording a basis upon which to found a natural classification of the Mammalia.

### III. Mittheilungen aus Instituten, Gesellschaften etc.

#### 1. Linnean Society of London.

December 16th 1880. — The only zoological contribution read at this meeting was »On the Land-Molluscan Genus *Durgella*, with notes on its Anatomy and description of a new Species« by Lieut.-Col. H. H. Godwin-Austen. *Durgella* was founded by Mr. W. T. Blanford in 1863, and his paper was the first attempt to classify the Indian land shells by the form of the animal and structure of the foot, besides being valuable as regards their distribution. — The genus contained three species, *D. levicula* Bens., *D. mucosa* Blandf., and *D. seposita* Bens. The type, *D. levicula*, is now in the Cambridge Museum. From examination of living specimens, and as compared with the type, Col. Godwin-Austen is satisfied of the distinctness of the genus, it having but a distant relationship with *Girasia*, *Macrochlamys* etc. He doubts, however, if the species *mucosa* ought to be placed in the genus; and states that if the species *seposita* is the same as his *bilineata* from the Duffa Hills, as Mr. G. Nevill asserts, it must also be removed, for the latter is a true *Macrochlamys*. *Durgella* has a very remarkable odontophore, quite unlike any other Indian species of the Zonitidae. The author treats further of its anatomy, and characterizes the genus afresh, describing *D. Blanfordi*, from Assam, as a new species.

January 20th 1881. — A Squirrel's nest from a holly bush was exhibited by Mr. Charles Berjeau, and in his remarks thereon he mentioned he could find no specimen of this rodent's aboreal domicile either in the British Museum or other London collections.

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