

bildet jede derselben einen seitlichen Zellenstrang. Dieser zerfällt der Länge nach in drei rundliche Zellenhaufen, welche in ihrem Innern Borsten erzeugen, zugleich aber auch eine dünne Zellschicht dorsalwärts entsenden. — Die Anlage des Centralnervensystems besteht in einer »Scheitelplatte« (Hirn) und einer ventralen Ectodermverdickung (Bauchmark), welche unabhängig von einander erscheinen; die Augen der Larve entstehen im Ectoderm, so wie auch die ersten Tentakeln rein ectodermale Bildungen sind.

Von der Entwicklung der *Spirorbis nautiloides* sei hier nur erwähnt, dass dort eine vollkommene bilateral-symmetrische Gastrula besteht, und der Mund an der Stelle sich bildet, wo das Prostoma lag. Das Mesoderm scheint den gleichen Ursprung zu haben wie bei *Nereis*.

III. Mittheilungen aus Instituten, Gesellschaften etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

15th March, 1881. — The Secretary read a report on the additions that had been made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of February, and called special attention to a female Bactrian Camel (*Camelus bactrianus*), formerly belonging to Ayoub Khan, which Colonel O. H. St. John, F.Z.S., has purchased from its captors at Kandahar and presented to the Society, and to a male Wild Sheep (*Ovis cycloceros*), obtained from Afghanistan, and presented to the Society by Captain W. Cotton, F.Z.S. — Mr. A. G. Moore exhibited some eggs of the Red-necked Phalarope, believed to have been taken in England; and an Egg of the Tree-Pipit, taken near Dublin, this bird having been considered only doubtfully Irish. Mr. More also exhibited a specimen of the Red-crested Pochard, obtained near Tralee, being the first record of the occurrence of this species in Ireland. — Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited a specimen of the so-called Sabine's Snipe (*Gallinago Sabini*). This bird had been shot in July last by the Hon. W. W. Palmer at Woolmer Pond, near Selborne, Hants. — Professor F. Jeffrey Bell, F.Z.S., read the fourth of his series of observations on the characters of the Echinoidea. The present paper dealt with most of the genera of the Echinometridae; their systematic affinities were discussed and their relations to the Echinidae shown to be so intimate as not to justify their separation into two distinct families. — A second paper by Professor Bell gave the description of a new species of the genus *Mespilia*, obtained at Samoa by the Rev. S. J. Whitmee, which the author proposed to name after its discoverer, *M. Whitmei*. — Mr. W. A. Forbes read the fourth of his series of papers on the Anatomy of Passerine Birds. The present communication was devoted to the consideration of some points in the anatomy of the genus *Conopophaga* and of its systematic position. — A communication was read from Professor Newton, F.R.S., in which he proposed to substitute the name *Hypositta* for *Hypherpes*, which he had formerly proposed for a genus of Passerine birds found in Madagascar. — A communication was read from Mr. M. Ja-

coby containing descriptions of new genera and species of Phytophagous Coleoptera. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of London.

Febr. 17, 1881. — Mr. A. Hammond drew attention to a microscopic specimen and drawing of portion of the wall of the so-called glandular sac of the larva of the Puss moth (*Cerura vinula*), from which that insect ejects an acid liquid when alarmed or irritated. Although doubtless the organ is the source of the excretion, it yet is questionable to regard it as a true glandular structure inasmuch as its tissue is largely composed of chitinous matter. — Dr. Francis Day read a paper, observations on some British fishes. In this he pointed out: that *Pimelepterus cornubiensis* is identical with the American *Pammelas perciformis*, Mitchell; that great confusion exists in the works of Yarrell and Couch respecting the Tunnies and their allies, most, if not all, the examples of the short-finned Tunnies being in reality specimens of *Pelamys sarda*; that the Comber Wrasse [*Labrus Donovanii*, Cuv. and Val.], is a peculiarly coloured variety of *L. maculatus*, Bloch; that *Crenilabrus Baillonii*, Couch, is the *C. melops*, Cuv. and Val. Adult examples of Brill and Sole, coloured on both sides, but in which the eyes were normal, were exhibited. Some Sprats obtained off St. Ives were adverted to, which had fully-developed ova in January this year. It was also proved that the specimen of *Ostracion quadricornis* figured by Couch as a British fish had been brought in salt from abroad by a sailor. Observations also were made by Dr. Day concerning the habits of the Thresher Shark towards the Whale. — Prof. P. M. Duncan read a paper on some sponges obtained among a mass of fistulose coral from deep water off the coast of Spain during the expedition of the Porcupine. One kind, apparently new, is described as a species of *Leiodermatium*, *L. affine*, Dunc., and another belongs to the genus *Aphrocallistes*.

IV. Personal-Notizen.

Bremen. — An Stelle des nach Gießen berufenen Prof. H. Ludwig ist Dr. J. W. Spengel (bisher Privatdocent in Göttingen) zum Director der städtischen Sammlungen für Naturgeschichte und Ethnographie in Bremen ernannt worden.

Necrolog.

Am 30. Jan. starb in London A. W. E. O'Shaughnessy, Assistent am British Museum, durch verschiedene zoologische Arbeiten bekannt.

Am 7. März starb in London Mr. Edward Richard Alston im Alter von 35 Jahren, ein um die Kenntnis der Säugethiere (über welche er fünf Jahre lang den Bericht im Zoological Record schrieb) sehr verdienter Zoolog.

Am 11. März starb in York Mr. Robert Hind, ein um die englische Fauna verdienter Lepidopterolog.

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