

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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