

in der bereits erschienenen 5. Abtheilung meiner »Vergleichend-physiologischen Studien« (Heidelberg, C. Winter's Verlagsbuchhandl. 1881).

Triest, K. K. Zoolog. Station, d. 14. April 1881.

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

#### 1. Zoological Society of London.

3rd May, 1881. — Professor F. Jeffrey Bell, F.Z.S., read the first of a series of papers on the systematic arrangement of the *Asteroidea*. In the present communication the author directed attention to the large number — more than 80 — of described species of the genus *Asterias*, the subdivision of which had never yet been attempted. After a list of the species with reference to one description of each, and a list of the synonyms, he proceeded to describe and make use of certain characters as an aid in the classification of the species; the number of rays, of madreporiform plates, and of ambulacral spines forming the more important, and the form and character of the spines the less important points. The author then proposed a mode of formulating results by the use of certain symbols, and concluded by describing five new species. — A communication was read from Dr. M. Watson, F.Z.S., containing some observations on the anatomy of the generative organs of the Spotted Hyaena, in continuation of a previous paper on the same subject. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.Z.S., read a memoir on the Indian species of the genus *Mus*. The present paper was an attempt to clear up the existing confusion in the synonymy of the Indian species of this genus, of which the author recognised about 19 as valid. — A communication was read from Mr. Edgar A. Smith, containing remarks on some specimens of *Cypraea decipiens*, lately received by the British Museum. — A second paper by Mr. Smith contained the description of two new species of Shells from Lake Tanganyika. — Captain G. E. Shelley read a paper containing an account of seven collections of Birds recently made by Dr. Kirk in the little explored regions of Eastern Africa. Two new species were proposed to be called *Coccytes albo-notatus* and *Urobrachya zanzibarica*. — Mr. Arthur G. Butler, F.Z.S., read a paper on a collection of Lepidoptera made in Western India, Beloochistan, and Afghanistan by Major Charles Swinhoe. The collection contained examples belonging to three new genera and 15 new species. — P. L. Selater, Secretary.

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#### Berichtigung.

In No. 80, p. 188 Zeile 16 v. u. ist »keine« vor Faltungen zu streichen.

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#### Bitte.

Vor länger als einem Jahre habe ich einem meiner geehrten Correspondenten **Neues Jahrbuch f. Miner., Geol. u. Palaeontol.**, Jahrg. 1879. **2. Heft** geliehen, aber bis jetzt noch nicht zurückerhalten. Ich bitte den mir leider aus dem Gedächtnis entfallenen Entleiher dringend, mir das Heft baldmöglichst zurückzusenden.

**J. Victor Carus.**

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