

(2) *Galidictinae*, (3) *Euplerinae*, (4) *Cryptoproctinae*, and (5) *Herpestinae*. The *Hyaenidae* were referred to two subfamilies — (1) *Protelinae* and (2) *Hyaeninae*. The Author regarded *Cryptoprocta* as a true Viverrine animal, attaching but very little importance to dental characters save as discriminating species and genera. The *Galidictinae* were arranged to include the genera *Galidictis*, *Galidia*, and *Hemigalidia*, the last-named genus having been instituted for the species previously known as *Galidia olivacea* and *Galidia concolor*. — Mr. W. A. Forbes read a paper on some points in the anatomy of the Indian Darter (*Plotus melanogaster*), and gave a description of the mechanism of the neck in this genus in connexion with the habits of the birds. — A communication was read from Prof. P. Martin Duncan, F.R.S., containing descriptions of some recent Corals collected by Mr. J. Y. Johnson at a few fathoms depth in the sea off Funchal, Madeira. — Mr. Stuart O. Ridley read a paper on the arrangement of the Coralliidae, and gave a review of the genera and species of this family, which contains the Red Corals. The description of a new species obtained at the Mauritius was given, as well as of an interesting, but probably not new, form, said to come from Japan. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of London.

2. February, 1882. — An Extract from a letter by Mr. Thomas Edward was read, and portion of a specimen shown of a supposed rare Marine Animal. It was caught alive on a line by a fisherman a few miles out from the Banffshire coast. As first observed it was about 9 inches long, 1 inch broad flattened and eel-like in shape with tapering ends, and it then was of a dark drab colour, with lighter edges. Ordinarily sluggish, at times it swam rapidly round the dish in which it was placed. It stained the water yellow, and latterly threw off joint-like pieces from its hinder extremity. From examination of the object, and microscopical sections Dr. Murie identified it as belonging to the Nemertean, apparently *Cerebratulus angulatus* O. F. Müll. — a form which Dr. MacIntosh (Monog. Ray Soc.) says is found «generally in deep water throughout the British Coasts» though hitherto seldom seen alive by naturalists. — Mr. E. M. Holmes exhibited specimens of a new blistering insect from Madagascar belonging to the genus *Epicauta*, and allied to *E. ruficollis*. It had been brought to this country by Dr. W. Parkes, physician to the Queen of Madagascar. — A communication from Major General Benson was read, in this referring to Dr. Cobbold's use of the name *Fasciola Jacksoni* for certain flukes obtained from the Elephant. These had been described by Major Gen. Benson in 1867 in the Rangoon Times where an account of the epizootic outbreak was first given. Dr. Cobbold explained that the initials of the author having alone been appended to the article in question it consequently had received less attention than it would otherwise have had. To Major Gen. Benson certainly belongs the credit of having first directed attention to the Elephant mortality from the said species of fluke; though the worm was first discovered by Jackson 20 years before the Rangoon letter appeared, namely in 1847. — A paper was read on animal Intelligence by Mr. Otto Tepper. He described instances under his own observation of Cats regularly unfastening the latch of a door to obtain entrance; and in the case of certain species of ants watched by himself their

mode of communicating with each other and diverse other habits were detailed. From these and kindred examples he adduces the possession of a kind power of reasoning, though this is usually attributed to instinct. — J. Murie.

4. Zoologisches Laboratorium in Prag.

Ein Zoologisches Laboratorium an der Universität zu Prag wurde am 8. Januar eröffnet. Auf Ansuchen des Prof. Dr. Anton Fritsch hat das Unterrichtsministerium eine Privatwohnung (Brennte Gasse 22) herichten lassen, so dass gegenwärtig 3 Zimmer zum Mikroskopiren, eines zur Abhaltung von Vorträgen verwendbar sind und ein kleineres Gemach als Assistentenzimmer fungirt. An zehn Arbeitstischen üben sich nun die Zuhörer, meist Lehramtsandidaten, im Mikroskopiren, Anatomiren und in Anfertigung von Diagrammen. Aus diesem bescheidenen Anfang dürfte sich mit der Zeit ein zoologisches Institut entwickeln, welches sich die Bearbeitung der Fauna Böhmens zur Hauptaufgabe machen möchte.

Dr. A. Fritsch.

IV. Personal-Notizen.

Necrolog.

Am 17. Novbr. 1881 starb in Paris Graf Georg Vand. v. Mniszech, bekannt als Coleopterolog und Besitzer einer der bedeutendsten Sammlungen.

Am 10. Decbr. 1881 starb in Davenport Mr. Jos. Duncan Putnam. Er war am 18. Oct. 1855 in Jacksonville, Ills., geboren und hat sich durch Arbeiten über Cocciden, über Galeodes u. A. als tüchtiger Beobachter einen ehrenvollen Ruf gegründet. Er war zuletzt Präsident der Davenport Academy of Natural Sciences.

Am 17. Decbr. 1881 starb in Rochester, N. Y., Mr. Lewis H. Morgan. Vorzugsweise als Archaeolog und Ethnograph, besonders als ausgezeichnete Kenner der nordamericanischen Indianer bekannt, ist er auch als äußerst sorgfältig beobachtender Zoolog aufgetreten. Sein Buch »The American Beaver and his Works«, (1867) ist eine der besten Monographien.

Am 2. Januar 1882 starb in Brüssel Mr. Jules Putzeys, ein hervorragender Beamter des belgischen Justiz-Ministeriums, in seinem 73. Jahr. Er war seit 1845, wo seine ersten Arbeiten in der Stettiner entomologischen Zeitung erschienen, als einer der tüchtigsten Coleopterologen bekannt, namentlich in Bezug auf die Carabiden.

Am 4. Januar 1882 starb in New York Dr. John William Draper, Professor der Physiologie und Präsident der medicinischen und naturwissenschaftlichen Facultäten an der Universität New York. Er war am 5. Mai 1811 in St. Helens bei Liverpool (England) geboren, wanderte 1832 nach den Vereinigten Staaten aus und wurde Dr. der Medicin 1836 an der Universität von Pennsylvanien. Seine Hauptthätigkeit lag auf der Seite der physikalisch-chemischen Forschung.

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