

## 2. Zoological Society of London.

6th June, 1882. The Secretary called the attention of the Meeting to the curious way in which the young Cormorants lately hatched in the Gardens were fed by the parent birds; and exhibited a drawing by Mrs. Hugh Blackburn illustrating this subject. — A communication was read from Prof. St. George Mivart, F.R.S., containing a series of observations on certain points in the anatomy of the Cat-tribe (*Aeluroides*). — Mr. Howard Saunders read a paper on some *Laridae* collected by Capt. H. H. Markham, R. N., on the coasts of Peru and Chili; comprising, amongst other rarities, the third known example of the large Fork-tailed Gull (*Xema furcatum*), a species which had been vainly sought for on the Pacific coast of America for upwards of thirty years. The author drew attention to the peculiarities distinguishing the various species of Gulls found in the Pacific from those of the rest of the globe; and pointed out that, owing to oceanic currents, the connexion between the species now only found on opposite sides of the equator had evidently been much more recent in the Pacific than in the Atlantic. — Prof. F. Jeffrey Bell read a paper containing an attempt to apply a method of formulation to the species of the *Comatulidae*, and added the description of a new species, which he proposed to call *Actinometra annulata*. — Mr. Francis Day, F.Z.S., read some notes on the supposed identity of a specimen of a fish determined by Dr. Günther as *Anguilla Kieneri* with a Gadoid *Lycodes*. — Mr. E. J. Miers read the second portion of his paper on the Crustaceans received by the British Museum from the Mauritius; and called special attention to what appeared to be a variety of *Palinurus longimanus* of the West Indies which occurred in it. — Mr. W. A. Forbes read the fifth of his series of papers on the anatomy of Passerine birds. The present communication was devoted to the consideration of the structure of the genus *Orthonyx*, which was shown to be a true Oscinine form. — Mr. H. J. Elwes exhibited and made remarks on a Stonechat (*Saxicola*) which he had obtained during a recent expedition to the Aures Mountains of Algeria. — The Secretary exhibited a series of the diurnal and nocturnal Lepidopterous insects bred in the Insect House in the Gardens during the present season. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

## 3. Linnean Society of London.

4th May, 1882. — Sir J. Lubbock, Bart., F.R.S., President in the Chair. — A Resolution of Council was read embodying the Society's sense of the loss sustained by the death of Mr. Chas. Darwin, and expressing sympathy with the family in their bereavement. — A paper was read on the discovery of Remains of the Great Auk (*Alca impennis*) in the Island of Oronsay, Argyllshire, by Mr. Symington Grieve. A series of wing and leg bones of this bird were obtained along with a various assortment of remnants of Guillemot, Red Deer, Marten, Otter, Sheep, Rat, Rabbit, Common Seal, Pig, Wrasse, Mullet, Skate, Crabs and several Kinds of Mollusks. These were dug out of a large cone shaped Mound, believed by the author at one time to have been occupied by Man. Remains of the Gare fowl have only once before been recorded as found in Britain. — A communication followed by Mr. P. H. Gosse dealing with the Clasping Organs

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