

an international colourscale in describing the colours of natural objects. — A communication was read from Dr. W. Blasius, of Brunswick, containing the description of a small collection of birds made by Dr. Platen in the island of Ceram. The collection contained 49 specimens referable to 21 different species, one of which was new to the fauna of Ceram. — A communication was read from Mr. E. P. Ramsay containing the description of a new species of *Monarcha* from the Solomon Islands, proposed to be called *Monarcha (Piezorhynchus) Browni*. — Mr. W. Bancroft Espeut read a paper on the acclimatization of the Indian Mungoes (*Herpestes griseus*) in Jamaica. The author explained that the object in introducing the Mungoes into Jamaica was the destruction of the rats, which had committed serious ravages among the sugar- and coffee-crops. The first Mungoes were introduced in 1871, and so beneficial was the effect produced that the saving to the sugar- and coffee-planters now was estimated at least at £ 100,000 a year. — Lieut.-Col. Godwin-Austen read a paper describing specimens (male and female) of *Phasianus Humei*, Hume, which had been obtained by Mr. M. Ogle on the peak of Shiroifurur, in N. E. Munipur, upon the Naja Hills. — A communication was read from Mr. A. Thomson containing the results of some observations made by him during the rearing of a species of Stick-insect (*Bacillus patellifer*) in the Society's Insect-House. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of London.

7 December. — Besides exhibitions and botanical papers of interest the two following zoological communications were made. — Mr. G. Brook read Notes on some little known Collembola and the British species of the genus *Tomocerus*. Tullberg refers to their occurrence in Sweden, but the four species in question viz.: *Achorutes manubrialis*, *Xenylla maritima*, *Triaena mirabilis*, and *Tomocerus vulgaris*, have not hitherto been accorded a British habitat. — There followed a paper, »Remarks on the genera of the subfamily Chalcidinae with synonymic notes and descriptions of new species of Leucospidinae and Chalcidinae«, by Mr. J. Kirby. The author remarks that this subfamily is in a very unsatisfactory state and the tendency of recent authors has been to class the majority of the species under the three genera *Smicra*, *Halticella* and *Chalcis*, ignoring the divisions which former writers have prepared, partly on the ground that several genera run into each other, and partly because it is usually considered that characters taken from one sex only are not sufficient to establish a genus. But in the Order Hymenoptera, where the females frequently far outnumber the males forming in fact the bulk of the species, it seems that the latter objection will hardly hold good. The author thereafter gives a revision of the groups in question and defines several new genera. — J. Murie.

Bemerkung der Verlagshandlung.

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Autor(en)/Author(s): Murie J.

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