

large majority of the Daphnias preferred being under the yellow liquid rather than in the exposed half, that in the second a large majority preferred being under the green liquid rather than in the exposed half; that in the third a large majority preferred the exposed half to that which was shaded and in the 4th, that a large majority preferred the half on which the extra amount of light was thrown. It is evident then, that in the first and second troughs the Daphnias did not go under the solution for the sake of the shade, because other Daphnias placed by their side under similar conditions preferred a somewhat brighter light. It seems clear, therefore, that they were able to distinguish the yellow and green light and that they preferred it to white light. No such result was given with blue or red solutions. In such cases the Daphnias always preferred the uncovered half of the trough. It is of course impossible absolutely to prove that they perceive colours, but these experiments certainly show that rays of various wave lengths produce distinct impressions on their eyes; that they prefer rays of light of such wave lengths as produce upon our eyes the impression of green and yellow. It is of course possible that rays of different wave lengths produce different impressions upon their eyes, but yet that such impressions differ in a manner of which we have no conception. This however seems improbable, and on the whole therefore it certainly does appear that Daphnias can distinguish not only different degrees of brightness but also differences of colour. — The Rev. A. E. Eaton gave a digest of an extensive Monograph of the Ephemeridae or Mayflies, Part I. In this the subject is prefaced by the historical account and his views of the group generally; the genera are defined and a tabular conspectus of the present known species indicated. — J. Murie.

#### 4. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

March, 28th 1883. The following papers were read: 1) (Botanical).

2) »On tooth-marked bones of extinct Marsupials.« By Chas. W. de Vis, B.A. A large proportion of fossil marsupial bones from the Darling Downs, recently examined by Mr. de Vis, are considered by him to show more or less decided traces of the action of the teeth of carnivorous animals. The tooth-marks are ascribed to the agency partly of the Native Dog, partly of the *Thylacoleo*, and partly of an extinct species of *Sarcophilus* which was identified by a portion of a tibia.

3) »On *Brachalletes Palmeri*«, an extinct Marsupial. By Chas. W. de Vis, B.A. A femur from the Darling Downs differs so markedly from that of *Macropus* and *Halmaturus* in the less prominent character of the great trochanter, that it is considered to belong to a new generic type, proposed to be named *Brachalletes*.

4) On the habits of the »Mallee Hen« (*Leipoa ocellata*) by K. H. Bennett. This gives an interesting and detailed account from the author's own observation of the nidification and general habits of this very curious bird.

Mr. Macleay exhibited a specimen of *Dendrolagus Dorianus*, a new species of Tree Kangaroo from Mount Owen Stanley, New Guinea, described by Mr. E. P. Ramsay at the January meeting of the Society. He pointed out that the hair on the body all turned the wrong way.

Mr. Macleay also exhibited some specimens of a Moth, with a fungus upon which their larvae had fed. He stated that the larvae were inhabi-

tants of portable cases, like the rest of the *Psychidae*, to which family they no doubt belonged. The genus and species *Œcinia Scotti* were described and figured by Walker Scott, M.A., in his beautiful but, unfortunately, uncompleted work entitled »*Australian Lepidoptera*«. The specimens exhibited (two females) were the only outcome of a large number of the larvae collected by Sir John Hay, at Nepean Towers, some months ago.

### 5. Berichtigung.

Ohne mein Wissen und entgegen meiner Angabe sind auf dem Titel des so eben erschienenen ersten Heftes: »Die Sipunculiden, eine systematische Monographie« die Namen meiner Mitarbeiter, der Herren Doctoren J. de Man und C. Bülow weggeblieben. Der vollständige, bereits gegen Ende des vorigen Jahres in einer vorläufigen Mittheilung (Erlanger Sitzungsber. 13. November 1882) richtig angegebene Titel lautet: »Die Sipunculiden, eine systematische Monographie, unter Mitwirkung der Herren Dr. J. G. de Man und Dr. C. Bülow bearbeitet von Dr. Emil Selenka«, was ich mich beeile hiermit zur Kenntnis zu bringen.

Erlangen, 20. Mai 1883.

Selenka.

### IV. Personal-Notizen.

Cork. — An Stelle des verstorbenen Prof. Leith Adams ist Marcus M. Hartog, D. Sc., zum Professor der Naturgeschichte gewählt worden.

#### Necrolog.

Am 3. Febr. starb in Southport, Lancashire, Mr. Benjamin Cooke, 66 Jahre alt. Er war einer der bekanntesten und thätigsten britischen Entomologen.

Am 27. März starb in Stettin Prof. Phil. Christoph Zeller im 75. Jahre seines Lebens, einer der bedeutendsten Lepidopterologen. Er war Oberlehrer an der höheren Realschule in Meseritz gewesen und seit 1869 pensionirt.

Am 28. März starb in Gotha Forstrath A. Kellner, der Entomolog.

Am 20. April starb in Berlin Dr. Wilh. H. Peters, Professor der Zoologie und Director des Zoologischen Museums, bekannt durch seine Reise nach Mozambique und durch zahlreiche besonders dem Gebiete der beschreibenden systematischen Zoologie angehörende vortreffliche Arbeiten.

Am 1./13. Mai starb in Dorpat der wirkl. Staatsrath Dr. Gust. von Flor, ord. Prof. der Zoologie.

Am 24. Mai starb in Bern Dr. Gabr. Gust. Valentin, Professor der Physiologie daselbst von 1836 bis 1881, wo er sein Amt niederlegte. Als Schüler Purkinje's war er besonders durch seine Untersuchungen über die Flimmerbewegungen bekannt geworden.

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