

fear, and are said to be rapidly exterminating this interesting relic, so that on the mainland it is becoming very scarce. — Professor Stephens also exhibited two specimens of *Pennatulidae* from Burrard's Inlet, Victoria, British Columbia. These were brought to Sydney by Captain Barnes, of the »Pacific Slope«, who had obtained them from the natives. They are said to bear their polypiferous heads just at the surface of the water. One of the specimens was $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, the other 5 feet in length, but as they consisted of little more than the slender and cylindrical rachis, curiously like a dry osier twig peeled ready for the basket-maker, it is not possible to identify them with any described form. This exhibit was due to the kindness of A. A. Smith, Esq. — Mr. H. Rawes Whittell exhibited some specimens of *Tacsonia Exonensis*, showing the manner in which the honey is extracted by the Spine-billed Honey-eater — *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris* Lath. He stated that W. S. Campbell, Esq., of Gladesville, to whose kindness he was indebted for this exhibit, informed him that he had often seen this bird engaged in the operation of extracting the honey. He had also frequently seen it devouring large numbers of the common white ant. The flower is a hybrid raised in England, and first imported to this colony by Mr. Campbell. — The President [C. S. Wilkinson, Government Geologist] exhibited some specimens of fossil insects found in the tin-bearing tertiary deep leads near Vegetable Creek, New England. This is the second discovery of fossil insects in Australia, and the specimens show the impressions of larvae and pupae of *Ephemer* or »*May fly*«. — A fossil coral (*Cyathophyllum* sp.), from the carboniferous rocks, near Jervis Bay, was exhibited on behalf of the Hon. Jas. Norton.

2. Notiz.

Herr Dr. A. Ziegler in Freiburg i. B. hat mit der meisterhaften Geschicklichkeit, welche alle von ihm gefertigten Wachsmodele auszeichnet, neuerdings eine vortrefflich gelungene Serie von Modellen hergestellt, welche die wichtigsten Stadien in der Entwicklung der *Asterina gibbosa* (im Anschluß an meine Abhandlung in der Zeitschr. f. wiss. Zool. 36. Bd.) zum Gegenstande haben. Die Serie umfaßt im Ganzen 11 Modelle, welche mit Ausnahme eines einzigen, paarweise in der Art zusammengehören, daß das eine Modell die äußere Gestalt, das andere die wichtigsten anatomischen Verhältnisse des betreffenden Stadiums wiedergibt. Das Verständnis derselben wird durch die verschiedenen Farbentöne der einzelnen Organe wesentlich gefördert. Obschon die Serie bereits auf der letzten Naturforscher-Versammlung in Freiburg i. B. von Herrn Dr. Ernst Ziegler demonstriert worden ist, möchte ich auch noch an dieser Stelle auf dieses ausgezeichnete Unterrichtsmittel aufmerksam machen.

Gießen, 22. October 1883.

Prof. H. Ludwig.

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