

species of *Callianassa*, proposed to be called *C. Martensi*. — Mr. Francis Day read a paper on races and hybrids among the Salmonidae, and exhibited a series of specimens of young Salmon and hybrid Salmonidae reared at Sir J. Gibson Maitland's Howietown Fish Establishment. — Prof. F. Jeffrey Bell read a paper on the generic position and relations of *Echinanthus tumidus* of Tenison-Woods, from the Australian Seas, which he showed to belong to a different genus, proposed to be called *Anomalanthus*. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of London.

17th January, 1884. — A paper was read by Mr. A. D. Michael on the »Hypopus« question or life history of certain Acarina. From a careful series of experiments and observations he concludes that — true »Hypopi« are not adult animals but only a stage or heteromorphous nymphs of *Tyroglyphus* and allied genera. Nor do all individuals become »Hypopi« which latter stage takes place during the second nymphal ecdysis. It seems a provision of nature for the distribution of the species irrespective of adverse conditions. »Hypopi« are not truly parasitic nor confine themselves to any particular insect. A new adult form described is called by the author *Disparipes bombi*, and he believes there are other species of the genus *Dormadicus* bee parasites admitted to be adults, though it is uncertain if they are identical with Dufours' *Trichodactylus*. — J. Murie.

3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

31st October, 1883. — (1. Botanical.) — 2. Notes on the temperature of the body of the *Echidna hystrix*. By N. de Miklucho Maclay. — This is a detailed account of some experiments made by the writer at Brisbane in July, 1879. He found, after observations carefully made on two occasions, that the average temperature of the body of the Echidna is 25° C., equal to 78° F., or very little more than that of Fish, and about 25° under that of Mammals generally. — 3. On the Plagiostomata of the Pacific, Part II. By N. de Miklucho Maclay and William Macleay, F.L.S. The continuation of a paper by the same authors, written some years back on the genus *Heterodontus*. The present paper gives descriptions and illustrations of a new species from Japan named *Heterodontus Japonicus*. — 4. Notes on some Reptiles from the Herbert River, Queensland. By William Macleay, F.L.S., etc. — In this Paper, after enumerating all the Reptilia contained in the collection, sent to him by Mr. Boyd from the Herbert River, Mr. Macleay describes as new a Lizard, *Tiaris Boydii*, and three snakes, *Tropidonotus angusticeps*, *Dendrophis bilorealis*, and *Herbertophis plumbeus*, the latter a new genus allied to *Coronella*. — 5. Notes on some customs of the Aboriginal tribes of the Albert District, New South Wales. By C. S. Wilkinson. The Author read some notes furnished him by Mr. W. H. J. Slee, the Government Inspector of Mines, regarding a singular ceremony which the aboriginal tribes of the Mount Poole district perform, when, as is often the case in that arid region, they need rain. Occasionally pieces of the fibrous variety of gypsum, Satinspar, are found by the natives who highly value them and call them »rain-stones«, for they believe that the Great Spirit uses

them in producing rain. The President exhibited one of the »rain-stones« which had been secured by Mr. Slee, who witnessed the ceremony when performed two years ago by the Mount Poole and Mokley tribes. — 6. On the Brain of Grey's Whale (*Kogia Greyi*). By William A. Haswell, M.A., B.Sc. The obtaining by the Australian Museum of a fresh specimen of Grey's Whale in which the jaws had become too much splintered to allow of a complete skeleton being prepared, afforded the writer the opportunity of examining the brain, of which he gave a very full description with measurements. For comparison he had the brain of only one other species, viz., that of the species of *Delphinus*, common on the New South Wales coast. — 7. On a New Genus of Fishes from Port Jackson. By Wm. Macleay, F.L.S., etc. This paper consists of the description of a large fish taken a few days ago in a seine net at Watson's Bay. It is of the family *Cirrhitidae*, and somewhat allied to the genus *Chilodactylus*. The generic name given to it is *Psilocranium*, from its naked head, and the specific name *Coxii*, in honour of the President of the Commissioners for Fisheries of New South Wales. This fish was exhibited by Mr. Morton, Assistant Curator Australian Museum. — Dr. Cox exhibited a specimen of *Conus nodulosus*. He stated that an unique specimen was possessed by Mr. Taylor, from whose collection it was first described by Sowerby, in 1865, which was said to have come from Australia. Hitherto no second specimen had been recorded from Australia, but the one now exhibited had been sent to him by Mr. Flateau, of Melbourne, with a number of West Australian shells, to be named, and he concluded from that circumstance that it also had come from that locality. Dr. Cox also exhibited a specimen of *Conus abbas*, a rare species from West Australia. Also a rare form of *Cypraea Lynx* of Linn. This rare form differs from those abnormal forms found in New Caledonia by having the marginal callus as a thick opaque cream-coloured layer reflected over the whole dorsal surface of the shell except at the median line. The base of the shell was not thickened and opalized as in the New Caledonian specimens. — Dr. Cox also exhibited some remarkable forms of deformed eggs from the common hen. One of these measured over two inches long, of a conical form, and bent towards one end. These specimens were all the property of Mr. Flateau. Also three cocoons of a large silkworm of the genus *Attacus*, and a gall of a *Coccus*, obtained at the North Shore, which had been sent to Dr. Cox by Mr. William Hemming. — Mr. Brazier exhibited on behalf of Mr. J. F. Bailey, of Melbourne — specimens of *Voluta maculata* nearly all white, *Voluta vola* four inches long, *Cypraea eximia*, Sowerby, from Eocene beds, Port Phillip; *Cypraea*, a new species also fossil, a fine specimen of Cornelian from Basalt in the bed of the Yarra River; and a number of fossil Micro-Bryozoa from the Gippsland Lakes, which he placed at the disposal of the Members. — Mr. Haswell exhibited a beautifully prepared skeleton of the Port Jackson Shark, prepared by Mr. H. Barnes of the Museum, according to a process recently invented by Prof. S. Jeffrey Parker, of Dunedin. — The Hon. James Norton exhibited the nest of *Origma rubricata* from Springwood, which was detached from a flat horizontal sandstone rock from which it was suspended by its upper portion worked by the bird into a kind of string, and evidently wedged into a small semi-detached flake of the rock.

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