

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

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