

The matter is still somewhat in dispute, but since the publication of Marshall's researches on the subject, and the confirmation (in the main) of them by Van Wijhe it may be taken as established that in front of the vague group of nerves four segmental nerves exist. These may be taken to be represented by: no. 1. The Motoroculi; no. 2. Trigemini; no. 3. Facialis; no. 4. Glossopharyngeus: The Olfactory nerve has been omitted from this list, because its segmental nature is still disputed. But even if the latter nerve be considered a segmental nerve, I think the very special function it fulfils sufficiently accounts, in accordance with Dohrn's principle of change of function, for the absence of any innervation by it of segmental sense organs.

It would have been impossible before the researches of Van Wijhe to classify the Motoroculi among those segmental nerves which supply segmental sense organs. But, according to Van Wijhe, a »Zweig des Ganglion Ciliare« goes to an epidermis thickening which becomes a segmental sense organ.

The nerves of the second and third segments, viz. the 5th and 7th cranial nerves, give in common, according to the same author, a branch to the supply of segmental sense organs. He says: »Beide Nerven (Ram. buccalis und Portio facialis) entstehen gegen das Ende des Stadiums J. oder den Anfang des K., gemeinsam als ein kurzes Rudiment (Ram. Oph. Sup.), welches, vom Facialis nahe an seinem Austritt aus dem Gehirn entspringend, in eine kleine hinter dem Auge befindliche verdeckte Stelle der Epidermis endet« etc.

Like the three preceding the fourth segmental nerve or Glossopharyngeus gives off a dorsal branch to supply its segmental sense organs.

(Schluß folgt.)

III. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Zoological Society of London.

5th February, 1884. — Mr. F. Day, F.Z.S., exhibited and made remarks on a specimen of a Dog-fish, of which the entire interior had been eaten out by Isopod Crustaceans of the genus *Conilera*. — Mr. G.F. Butt, F.Z.S., exhibited two specimens of a singular variety of the Red Grouse, shot in Westmoreland. — A communication was read from Mr. W. Leche, of the University of Stockholm, in which he gave an account of a collection of Bats from Australia. Two new species were described and named respectively *Nyctinomus Petersi* and *N. albidus*. — Mr. Sclater read some notes on the Lesser Koodoo (*Strepsiceros imberbis* of Blyth), with a view of confirming the distinctness of this Antelope from its larger relative *Strepsiceros kudu*. — A communication was read from Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe,

containing the description of a new species of Bush-Shrike of the genus *Laniarius*, based on a specimen obtained in Ashantee by Mr. Godfrey Lagden, which he proposed to call *L. Lagdeni*, after its discoverer. — Prof. Flower made some remarks on the chief points of interest exhibited by the Burmese Elephant now in the Society's Gardens. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of London.

7th February, 1884. — There was exhibited on behalf of Mr. Arthur C. Cole a box containing mounted preparations illustrative of his Studies in microscopic science, a work devoted to Animal and Vegetable Histology now being issued in parts. — The second part of the Rev. A. E. Eaton's Monograph on the Recent Ephemeroidea or Mayflies was read in abstract. He takes into account the genera from *Potamanthus* to *Callibetes* inclusive. — Another paper read in abstract was a Catalogue of European and North Atlantic Crustacea by the Rev. A. M. Norman. In this an attempt has been made to gather together all the forms known and recorded of the above group. Notices of many of the species are only to be found in obscure periodicals etc. almost in every language consequently since the publication of Milne-Edwards' »Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés in 1834« the numbers have increased threefold, hence revision has become highly necessary. — Mr. B. J. Lowne gave an interesting communication embodying his Researches on the Compound Vision of Insects. He compares the structures of the Simple Ocellus with those of the Compound Ocellus (common in larval insects) and with those of the Compound Eye. The compound eye according to him is but composed of aggregated Compound Ocelli, or the latter in the larval insect is merely equivalent to a single segment of a compound eye. He refers to the development of the compound eye and points out that in many larvae during moulting stages the »segregate« retina is finally replaced by another. He describes a deep spindle like layer in intimate Connection with the nervous structures and which he regards as playing an important part in the phenomena of compound vision, rather than that this kind of vision is solely dependent on the number of corneal facets. — J. Murie.

21th February, 1884. — Mr. R. Miller Christy brought before the notice of the Society a series of Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera etc. captured by him in Manitoba, some of the Humble Bees being supposed new to Science. — A paper afterwards was read by Mr. Christy »On the power of penetrating the Bodies of animals possessed by the seed of *Stipa spartea*.« — A communication followed from Mr. Stuart O. Ridley »On some structures liable to variation in the subfamily *Astrangiaceae* (*Madreporaria*). Therein he remarks that although the columella has been taken in many groups of *Madreporaria* for distinguishing genera, yet a study of a series of specimens of *Astrangiaceae* (*Phyllangia papuensis*) shows that within a single colony we may have the papillar and the trabecular forms, both to all appearance well developed, owing to the union in some cuticles of the trabeculae by a continuous lamina. Similarly in the allied species *P. dispersa*, the costae, insisted upon in the description of the species of the genus by Mr. M. Milne-Edwards and Haime, may either be present or absent in the same colony. Thus great care must be exercised in the employment of columella and costae in the specific distinction of the *Astrangiaceae*. — J. Murie.

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1884

Band/Volume: [7](#)

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Artikel/Article: [1. Zoological Society of London 126-127](#)