

Für größere Schmetterlinge empfiehlt sich, eine dickere Gummilösung zu nehmen.

Bei diesem unsern Verfahren gelingt das Übertragen vorzüglich, und dasselbe hat vor Allem den Vortheil, daß dadurch dem Beobachter die Oberseite der Schuppen zugekehrt ist, wodurch auch die zarten Farbennuancen, wie z. B. bei den Lycaeniden, sichtbar sind, so wie ferner den, daß die dicken sammtartigen Wollhaare am inneren Rande der Hinterflügel beweglich bleiben.

2. Zoological Society of London.

1st April, 1884. — Professor Flower exhibited and made remarks on a series of skulls of the Bottle-nosed Whale (*Hyperoodon rostratus*), illustrating the various stages presented by this animal as regards the conformation of its skull in the different ages of both sexes. Prof. Flower also exhibited, on behalf of Messrs. Langton and Bicknell, a specimen of spermaceti obtained from the head of the *Hyperoodon*. — Mr. Slater exhibited and made remarks on specimens of the eggs of two species of Testudinata (*Testudo elephantopus* and *Chelys matamata*), recently laid by animals living in the Society's Gardens. — Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe exhibited and made remarks on a Redthroated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*), caught near Brighton in March last. Mr. Sharpe exhibited at the same time an example of the true Water-Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*), captured at Lancing, in Sussex, in March 1877. — Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S., exhibited and made remarks on a large living Scorpion (*Buphus cyaneus*) from Ceylon. — A communication was read from Prof. T. Jeffrey Parker, being the first of a series of a studies in New-Zealand Ichthyology. The present paper gave a description of the skeleton of *Regalecus argenteus*. The species was founded on a specimen cast ashore at Moeraki, Otago, in June 1883. — A communication was read from Viscount Powerscourt, F.Z.S., containing an account of the origin and progress of the herd of Japanese Deer at Powerscourt. — A communication was read from Mr. G. A. Boulenger, giving the diagnoses of some new Reptiles and Batrachians from the Solomon Islands, collected and presented to the British Museum by H. B. Guppy, Esq., of H.M.S. 'Lark'. — A communication was read from Mr. C. O. Waterhouse, containing an account of the Coleopterous Insects collected by Mr. H. O. Forbes in the Timor-Laut Islands. — Mr. F. D. Godman, F.R.S., read a paper containing an account of the Lepidoptera collected by the late Mr. W. A. Forbes on the banks of the Lower Niger, the Rhopalocera being described by Messrs. F. D. Godman and O. Salvin, and the Heterocera by Mr. H. Druce. The species of Butterflies were fifty in number, and comprised representatives of all the families of Rhopalocera hitherto known from Tropical Africa, except the Erycinidae, a group but feebly developed in this region. — Mr. R. Bowdler Sharpe read the description of three rare species of Flycatchers, viz. *Alseonax minima*, *Lioptilus abyssinicus*, and *Lioptilus Gabinieri*. Mr. Sharpe also described an apparently new species of Nuthatch, discovered by Mr. John Whitehead in the mountains of Corsica, and proposed to be called *Sitta Whiteheadi*. — Mr. G. E. Dobson, F.R.S., read a paper on the myology and visceral anatomy of *Capromys melanurus*, of which rare mammal specimens had been lately obtained for

him by Mr. F. W. Ramsden, H.M.'s Consul at St. Jago de Cuba. The well-known division of the hepatic lobes into minute lobules in *C. pilorides* from the same island was shown not to exist in *C. melanurus*, which otherwise closely resembled the former species, and this character could therefore no longer be considered a generic one. — P. L. Sclater, Secretary.

3. Linnean Society of London.

3th April 1884. — Mr. R. Morton Middleton showed a Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*) with such albinism of the scapular and wing feathers as to give the bird a very considerable resemblance to a Magpie (*Pica caudata*). The Jackdaw had been watched for some time at Castle Eden, Durham, prior to its death from an injury. — Prof. P. M. Duncan gave a Revision of the Families and Genera of the Sclerodermic Zooantharia, the Rugosa excepted. He stated that there having been no systematic work written on the Madreporaria recent and fossil since that of M. M. Milne Edwards and Jules Haime 1857—60, and a great number of genera having been founded since that date there now arises a necessity for a fresh revision of the classification. This necessity is emphasized in consequence of the important morphological researches of Dana, L. Agassiz, Verrill and H. N. Moseley. The old sections of the Zooantharia suborder must be modified and added to. In the new revision the sections Aporosa and Perforata remain shorn of some genera, the old family Fungidae becomes a section with three families two of which are transitional between the sections just mentioned. The section Tabulata disappears, some genera being placed in the Aporosa and the others are relegated to the Hydrozoa according to Moseley. The Tubulosa cease to be Madreporarians. Hence the sections treated are Madreporaria-Aporosa, M.-Fungida and M. perforata. The nature of the hard and soft parts of these forms is considered in their relation to classification, and an appeal is made to naturalists to agree to the abolition of many genera, the author himself having sacrificed many of his own founding. The criticism of the 467 genera permits 336 to remain good, and as a moderate number (36) of subgenera are allowed to continue, the diminution is altogether about 100. The genera are grouped in alliances, and the plan seems to be useful. The number of alliances in a family differs. The object of the classification is to simplify, and many old artificial divisions are necessarily dispensed with. There is a great destruction of genera amongst the simple forms of Aporosa, and a most important addition is made to the Fungida. The genera *Siderastraea* and *Thamnastraea* are types of the family Plesiofungidae and *Microsolenia* and *Cyclolites* are types of the family Plesioporitidae. The family Fungidae and that of the *Lophoseridae* add many genera to the great Section Fungida. There is not much alteration in respect of the Madreporaria perforata, but the subfamily *Eupsamminae* are promoted to a family position as the *Eupsammidae*. — A paper was read of Mr. Francis J. Briant. On the Anatomy and Functions of the Tongue of the Bee (Worker). The author after referring to the structures of the more conspicuous parts of the endoskeleton and relations of the tongue thereto treats specially of the manner in which the Bee takes up the honey by its tongue. It appears that upon the nature and function of the organ in question authorities are by no means agreed. Kirby and Spence supported by Huxley and partly Newport, aver that the Bee Simply laps up its food; while Hermann Müller and others

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