2. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

28th October, 1885. — 1) Notes from the Australian Museum. By R. von Lendenfeld, Ph.D. Note 1. The Vestibule space of *Dendrilla cavernosa*. In this note a very remarkable structure is described; the sponge forms wide ramified tubes with thin walls; and the terminations of these tubes are closed by sieves, as in *Euplectella*. Rings of sensitive and ganglia cells are described round the pores in this membrane. Gland cells similar to those of other *Aplysillidæ* are also described. — Note 2. *Raphyrus Hixonii*, a new gigantic sponge from Port Jackson. A sponge weighing over 400lbs. was recently dredged in Port Jackson. A detailed description of it is given in this note. The author wishes to keep the two genera *Papillina* and *Raphyrus*, combined by O. Schmidt and Norman, distinct. He has found besides the spicules known of the European species, two other kinds in this Australian sponge. The structure of the whole sponge is reticulate, as in the Auleninae. Remarkable very granular amoeboid cells, which are very abundant around the inhalent lacunes, are described as digestive cells. — Note 3. *Halme tingens* n. sp. A sponge with peculiar staining qualities. This is a sponge from Thursday Island, which becomes blue after some time, and stains paper, etc., placed in the same spirit with it of a remarkably dark blue. The spirit remains light yellow. The author thinks that this colour might be turned to practical account. — Note 4. A case of Mimicry. Four sponges are described and photographed in this note. Two are *Ceraospongiæ*, and two are *Monactinellæ*. The two former belong to the genus *Chalinopsis*, R. v. L.; the two latter to the genus *Dactylochalina*. The author agrees with Vosmaer, that the horny sponges have descended from the *Monactinellid* siliceous sponges. Forms like those described connect the two groups. Their similarity in external appearance is considered a case of mimicry. Whilst the internal structure changed and the sponge lost its spicules, it kept up a close resemblance to the ancestral siliceous sponge which was defended by its spicules. The case is a very interesting one. — 2) Descriptions of some new or rare Australian Fishes. By E. P. Ramsay, F.R.S.E. etc., and J. Douglas-Ogilby, Esq. The species here described are *Pteroplatea australis*, *Sebastes scaber*, and *Platycephalus arenarius*, all new species, and *Cirrhitichthys graphidopterum*, and *Lepidotrigla pleuracanthica*, species previously known. — 3) On the genus *Trachichthys*. By J. Douglas-Ogilby, Esq. A full description and synonomy of the genus is here given, the author expressing an opinion that the *T. australis* Shaw, and *T. Jacksonensis* Macleay are the same species. — 4) Catalogue of Australian Coleoptera. Part II. By George Masters, Esq. The Families catalogued in this Part are the *Dytiscidæ*, *Gyrinidæ*, *Staphylinidæ*, *Pselaphidæ*, *Paussidæ*, *Scydmænidæ*, *Silphidæ*, *Trichopterygidæ*, *Scaphidiidæ*, *Histeridæ*, *Phalacridæ*, *Nitidulidæ*, *Trogositidæ*, *Colydiidæ*, *Rhysodidæ*, *Cucujidæ*, *Cryptophagidæ*, *Latridiidæ*, *Mycetophagidæ*, *Dermestidæ*, *Byrrhidæ*, *Georyssidæ*, *Parnidæ*, *Heteroceridæ*, in all 970 species. — 5) The Plagiostomata of the Pacific. No. III. By N. de Miklouho-Maclay and William Macleay, F.L.S. Three fishes are here described. 1. A *Heterodontus* from the Chinese Seas, identified as the true *Heterodontus Zebra* of Gray, hitherto looked upon as a synonym of *H. Phillippi*. 2. A species of Ray (*Myliobatis punctatus*), taken in 1879 in the

Lub or Hermit Islands, north of the Admiralty Group, and 3. A Ray from Sorry Island, North-west of the Admiralties, which is placed in a new genus of the *Trygonidæ*, and named *Discobatis marginipinnis*. — 6) Fourth Addendum to the Monograph of the Australian Hydromedusæ. By R. v. Lendenfeld, Ph.D. In this paper a new species of Hydra is described, which possesses invariably six arms, and on them cells, which the author considers more nearly allied to the Palpocils of Sarsia (Schulze), than the ganglia cells of Hydra. — 7) Professor Selenka's Researches into the development of the American Opossum. By R. v. Lendenfeld, Ph.D. Prof. E. Selenka's most important discoveries regarding the concupiscence, and the commencement of the development of the embryo of this marsupial, are enumerated in this short preliminary report. — 8) Second note on Macrodontism. By N. de Miklouho-Maclay. The author states his opinion about the very large teeth which he has observed in natives of different Islands of Melanesia. The results of observations during his last two trips (1879 and 1882) to the Admiralty and Lub Islands is the conclusion that the enlargement of the teeth is nothing but an *excessive accumulation of a special kind of tartar* deposited on the incisors and canines of the upper and lower jaw. — Mr. Brazier exhibited a specimen of *Paryphanta Hochstetteri*, a shell which he had exhibited at the August meeting, showing the remarkable effect produced by the heat a few days ago. The shell was completely splintered into about 50 pieces, nothing remaining but the whorls and the umbilicus. He said that he had often observed Bulimi throwing off the epidermis from heat, but had never before seen an instance of a shell flying to pieces from that cause. — Mr. Ogilby exhibited a specimen mounted by Mr. Whitelegge for the microscope, of *Branchiostoma cassanum*, Gunther, dredged off North Head. — Mr. Palmer exhibited a species of *Coccinella*, which had in a few days cleared his peach trees of an attack of Aphides, which threatened their destruction. Also specimens of *Anoplognathus inustus* in the cocoon, but completely formed, and a beautiful chrysalis, probably of a *Danais*, suspended from a fern leaf. — Mr. Palmer also exhibited two Mogos or Stone Axes of a very rough description, found a little below the surface in a cavity of the sandstone on the Blue Mountains. — Mr. C. S. Wilkinson exhibited a small fish brought by Mr. H. T. Wilkinson, J. P., from Lord Howe Island; also from the same Island a fine specimen of *Dolium variegatum* which Mr. Brazier stated had not hitherto been found so far to the east of Australia, Mr. Macleay and Mr. Ogilby considered the fish to be a new genus, and Mr. Macleay undertook to examine and describe it.

IV. Personal-Notizen.

Dorpat. Prof. M. Braun unternimmt in diesen Tagen mit mehreren seiner Schüler eine wissenschaftliche Reise an das Mittelländische Meer.

München. Dr. H. Schauinsland, früher Assistent am zoologischen Institut in Königsberg ist als Assistent am zoologischen Institut in München angestellt worden und hat sich an dortiger Universität als Privatdocent habilitirt.

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