

di Henle e quella di Huxley risaltano splendidamente, la prima assumendo un bel color rosso, la seconda un azzurro brillante; così, nel periosteo, il cambio appare rossastro, lo strato fibroso azzurrognolo.

VI. Se nella stessa cellula il protoplasma di una parte differenzia da quello di un' altra, lo si scorge a colpo d'occhio, per la diversa gradazione di tinta che presenta.

Ne ho avuto un grazioso esempio nelle cellule pancreatiche dell'uomo<sup>2</sup> e del gatto. In esse il protoplasma che riempie la loro parte acuminata si tinge in azzurro; quello dal quale solitamente è involuto il nucleo si colora in rosa. Nella massa poi di questa ultima parte protoplasmatica scorgonsi da due a tre calotte sferiche tinte in rosso marcato, quasi come quello del nucleo; ciò che mi fa supporre che ivi si nasconda una terza forma di protoplasma.

VII. Si presta eziandio per lo studio della istiologia vegetale.

Le sezioni vegetali da me osservate per prova (patate, carota, tartuffo, arum, petali di viola tricolor) mi riuscirono doppiamente colorate, e vi trovai costantemente le due tinte in quel dato organo nelle varie specie.

E però il metodo dovrebbe anche condurre ad un grande risparmio di tempo in una scuola di istiologia generale.

Con altra piccola memoria renderò conto delle reazioni che si hanno con il metodo suesposto, e dei risultati sulle ricerche microchimiche intorno all' azione che i reagenti suggeriti esercitano sul nucleo, sulle parti protoplasmatiche, e sugli elementi istologici in genere — e in quella occasione farò conoscere le novità istologiche che per esso ho trovato.

Verona, 24 novembre 1885.

#### 4. Linnean Society of London.

19th November 1885. — Mr. A. D. Michael described the remarkable nymphal stage of *Tegeocranus cepheiformis*, a species of the group *Oribatidæ*, which he lately discovered for the first time in England. He has succeeded in tracing the whole life-history of this animal. The creature in its nymphal stage carries on its back as concentric shields the dorsal portions of all its cast-skins, and these are bordered by projections each bearing a rose-leaf-like cuticular process of transparent membrane with chitinous nervures. — Mr. C. Stewart demonstrated, under the microscope, the stridulating apparatus of a species of *Sphærotherium*, differing in some respects

<sup>2</sup> Il pancreas era stato levato da un uomo appena decapitato. Ho potuto avere un pezzo di quest' organo, conservato presso l'Istituto Istiologico dell' Università di Monaco, per isquisita gentilezza dell' egregio Dr. Böhm.

from that described by Mr. Bourne (*infra*). — Dr. J. Murie exhibited and made remarks on the caudal end of the spine of a haddock with an arched deformity, recalling what is recorded of the so-called hump-backed cod (*Morrhua macrocephala*). — Prof. P. M. Duncan read a paper on the perignathic girdle of the Echinoidea. The author maintained that as the structures which give attachment to the muscles that protrude and retract the jaws of the Echinoidea (which are parts of the test surrounding the peristome within) are not homologous in all the families of the group, therefore it is unadvisable to retain the old name of »auricles«. He suggests to substitute the term »perignathic girdle«. The girdle consists of processes usually united above (though occasionally disconnected), and of »ridges« which connect the processes on the side remote from the ambulacra. The ridges are modifications of the inter-radial plates, the processes developments from the ambulacral plates. In the Cidaridæ, the muscular attachments are all on disconnected ridges, and there are no processes. In the Temnopleuridæ, Echinidæ, Echinometridæ, and Diadematidæ, the retractor muscles are attached to »processes« which are growths of the poriferous portions of the ambulacral plates; and the protractor muscles and ligament of the radials are attached to the ridge which is developed on the inter-radial plates, and is united by suture to the base of the »process«. In the Clypeastridæ there are disconnected growths which carry the jaws and have slight muscular attachments. In *Clypeaster* there are ten processes, each arising from an ambulacral plate; and there are no inter-radial structures like ridges. In *Laganum* there are five growths, each arising from a first inter-radial plate; hence these are the homologues of ridges. The Clypeastridæ may thus be divided into two groups, on account of the presence of processes in one, and of the homologues of ridges in the other. — Prof. Moseley communicated a paper on the anatomy of *Spherotherium* by Mr. Gilbert C. Bourne. The author mentioned that while the general exterior features and specific distinctions of the genus had been amply discussed, the internal structures had hitherto received scant attention. Among other anatomical peculiarities he describes a well-defined stridulating organ in the male. This consists of a prominent bolster-shaped swelling on the postero-external edge of the second joint of the second pair of copulatory appendages. The swelling occupies the entire margin of the joint, and shows a number of chitinous cross ridges and furrows. On the opposite interior surface of the last tergite are chitinous points. The former rasp-like organ of the second accessory appendages when rubbed rapidly against the latter produce a shrill note resembling that emitted by the house cricket. A true auditory organ exists in the antennary fossa beneath the eye. The tracheal system is unlike the majority of that of the Diplopoda, rather resembling that of Chilopoda and Insecta, though differing in the branched spiral filament not taking origin directly from the stigmata themselves. It appears that the tracheæ of *Spherotherium* are a transition from those of the *Julus* type to those of the *Scolopendra* type. It would thus seem that the character of the tracheæ, the curved alimentary tract, the numerous chitinous pieces composing each segment, and the presence of a special hearing organ on the head, mark off the family Glomeridæ (to which *Spherotherium* belongs) very sharply from the other families of the Diplopoda. — Prof. Moseley afterwards read extracts of letters from Mr. G. C. Bourne, who is now in the Chagos Archipelago, and from Mr. Sydney Hickson in the Celebes (Ox-

ford graduates), and now investigating the natural history of the regions in question.

3rd December 1885. — Mr. Vincent I. Chamberlain exhibited and made remarks on a specimen of Trap-Door spider and its nest from California. — A paper was read by Prof. J. Spencer Cobbold, On Parasites collected by the late Charles Darwin. This contains a letter from Mr. Darwin when sending the author the specimens in 1869, and this is followed by Dr. Cobbolds own Memoranda concerning eight of them, only one, however (*Distoma incesta*) proving new. — A paper was read by Mr. P. Herbert Carpenter, on the variations in the form of the cirri in certain Comatulæ. The shape and number of the cirrus joints of *Antedon phalangium* vary so greatly both in the same individual and in individuals from different localities that if the two extreme forms were met with in an isolated condition they would assuredly be referred to different species of *Antedon*. The cirri of this species are classed by the author under four types. (*A*) Long jointed; (*B*) Intermediate; (*C*) Square jointed; (*D*) shortjointed. *A* is the typical form which occurs in the Mediterranean variety but is also found in the Atlantic specimens together with *B*, and also but more rarely *C*; while *D* is confined to individuals from the Minch and the Ross-shire coast, occurring together with *C*, which is rare in examples from the Atlantic, except in those dredged by the »Dacia« on the Seine Bank. — A technical paper by Mr. Joseph Baly, (Part I) On the Colombian species of the genus *Diabrotica* with descriptions of those hitherto uncharacterised was summarised by the Secretary. The author states that he has divided the genus into two principal sections, dependent on the relative lengths of the second and third joints of the Antennæ.

17th December 1885. — Mr. Chas. Stewart exhibited the stridulating organs of a spiny Lobster (*Palinurus*), he showed under the microscope the file like bow and its two tubercles, also by means of a softened specimen attached to the carapace he produced the peculiar grating noise which the animal makes during life. — A fine example of the Common Polecat (*Mustela putorius*) shot near Cærmarthen, Wales, was shown for Mr. E. A. Heath. — Mr. J. Jenner Weir drew attention to and made Comments on the recent issued folios illustrating the Exotische Schmetterlinge of Dr. Staudinger and Langhans. — Afterwards the following papers were read and discussed: — (1) Entomostraca collected by Mr. A. Haly in Ceylon, by Prof. G. Stewardson Brady. The fresh water forms were obtained at Colombo, the Marine species were dredged at a depth of 2 fathoms, in the Gulf of Maanaar. The fresh water Copepoda and Cladocera approach well known European species. Among the Ostracoda is a curious new generic form *Cypripnotes*. Additional information is also given by the author respecting *Cypripis cylindrica* (*Malcolmsoni*) and *C. subglobosa*; (2) A Monographic Revision of the Recent Ephemeridae Part IV. by the Rev. A. Eaton; (3) Colombian species of the genus *Diabrotica* Part II. by Mr. Joseph Baly. — J. Murie.

#### IV. Personal-Notizen.

Greifswald. Dr. B. Solger, bisher Prosector und a. o. Professor in Halle a/S. ist als a. o. Professor der Anatomie u. Custos am anatomischen Museum nach Greifswald versetzt worden.

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