

mission; and to two curious hybrid Ducks between the Ruddy Sheldrake (*Tadorna rutila*) and the Egyptian Goose (*Chenalopez aegyptiaca*), presented by Sir Joseph Fayer, F.R.S. — A letter was read from Dr. C. S. Minot, of 25 Mount Vernon Street, Boston, Mass., U.S.A., calling attention to the Elizabeth-Thompson Science Fund for the advancement and prosecution of scientific research, and inviting applications for assistance from it. — A communication was read from the Rev. T. R. R. Stebbing, containing descriptions of some new Amphipodous Crustaceans from Singapore and New Zealand. — Mr. Howard Saunders exhibited an adult specimen of the Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuliginosa*), caught alive near Bath, October 1885, and pointed out that only two examples of this species had as yet occurred in Great Britain. — Mr. H. J. Elwes read a paper on the Butterflies of the genus *Parnassius*, having special relation to the development, functions, and structure of the horny pouch found in the females of this genus. He described the habits, distribution, and variations of twenty-three species which he recognized in the genus; and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of a very complete collection of specimens and drawings. The paper was supplemented by Prof. Howes's remarks on his examination of the anatomy of the *Parnassius apollo*, and by Mr. Thomson's notes on the habits of the insects as bred in the Society's Gardens in 1885. — Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.Z.S., read a paper containing a list of the specimens of Mammals collected in various parts of India and presented to the British Museum by Mr. A. O. Hume, C.B. The series consisted of about 400 specimens, nearly all in excellent condition and with accurate localities attached to them. A new Mouse from Tenasserim was proposed to be called *Mus Humii*. A new Flying Squirrel from the Malay Peninsula was named *Sciuropterus Davisoni*. — A communication was read from the Rev. Canon Tristram, containing the description of an apparently new species of Duck (*Dafila*) from Sidney Island of the Phoenix group in the Central Pacific, which he proposed to name, from its extreme simplicity of plumage, *Dafila modesta*. — A communication was read from Mr. A. G. Butler, containing a description of the larva, pupa, and imago of a Butterfly (*Aporia hippia*) from specimens bred in the Society's Gardens. — P. L. Slater, Secretary.

2. Linnean Society of London.

25th January. — Dr. J. Spencer Cobbold read a paper on *Strongylus Azei* and its affinities. This diminutive Maw-worm, obtained from the stomach of a Donkey, possesses interest, in as much as its structural characters closely correspond with those of the entozoon (*Strongylus Douglasii*, Cobb.) infesting the Ostriches proventriculus. It also shows affinity with the grouse Strongyle (*S. pergracilis*) and with the stomach worm (*S. contortus*) of Lambs; while its peculiarities throw light upon other questions of morphology, especially its relations to the singular Maw-worm (*Simondsia paradoxa*, Cobb.) of the Hog. — J. Murie.

3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

25th November, 1885. — 1) A list of the Trogositidæ of Australia, with notes and descriptions of new species. By A. Sidney Olliff, F.E.S., Assistant Zoologist, Australian Museum. This paper, like the »List of the Cucujidæ,« is based upon an examination of the specimens in the collections

of the Hon. William Macleay and the Australian Museum. Twenty-eight species are enumerated; the eight new species being divided amongst the genera *Leperina* (3) and *Ancyrona* (5). Besides a list showing the geographical distribution of the species and various synonymical remarks, the paper also contains a summary of the characters of the genera, into which Herr Reitter has divided the Peltinæ. — 2) Notes from the Australian Museum. — A new Butterfly of the family Lycænidæ, from the Blue Mountains. By A. Sidney Olliff, F.E.S., Assistant Zoologist, Australian Museum. This fine species, for which the name *Chrysophanus cyprotus* is proposed, was recently captured by Mr. Olliff, in the neighbourhood of Katoomba. — 3) On a remarkable Fish, from Lord Howe Island. By William Macleay, F.L.S., etc. Under the name of *Ctenodax Wilkinsoni*, Mr. Macleay described a fish picked up on the beach at Lord Howe Island, and made some remarks on its probable affinities. He considers it not referable to any known family. — 4) Botanical. — 5) The Australian Freshwater Rhizopods. Part I. By R. von Lendenfeld, Ph.D. This paper is the first of an intended series in which the Australian Protozoa belonging to the groups Rhizopoda and Heliozoa are to be registered, and the new species described. In this paper 6 species are mentioned, 2 are new. It is a most remarkable fact that the common and well-known European forms are all apparently found in equal abundance in Australian waters. The new species are very similar to European ones and do not present any marked peculiarities. It does not appear likely that there were no Rhizopods in Australian Creeks before the advent of Europeans, and so it cannot be assumed that all these Australian species have been imported. As they cannot travel over the oceans dividing Australia from other Continents, it must be assumed that they are unchanged descendants of the Rhizopods of that geological period, in which Australia was not isolated. The absence of forms peculiar to Australia speaks strongly against any recent spontaneous generation. — 6) Botanical. — 7) *Onchidium Chameleon*, sp. nov., and the structure of the dorsal skin of this and other Onchidia. By R. von Lendenfeld Ph.D., and John Brazier, C.M.Z.S. In this paper the new species *O. Chameleon* is described by Mr. Brazier. Dr. von Lendenfeld has examined this and Semper's *Onchidium Dämeli*, both from Port Jackson, by means of section series. The specimens were hardened with osmic acid and stained with Haematoxylin. The principal results of this investigation are given in eleven paragraphs, as a preliminary report in this paper. *Onchidium Chameleon* has no dorsal eyes. *Onchidium Dämeli* has eyes with an Epithelial Retina. The eyes of this species multiply in each Papilla by fission. The lens is monocellular, and possesses a circular adapting muscle. There is no corpus vitreum. The Retina is more complicated than as Semper, who only had spirit specimens, describes it. Four layers can be distinguished in it (1) Fibres of the Nervus Opticus interspersed with ganglia cells; (2) cylindrical cells with a plano-concave lens in each; (3) a layer of ganglia cells; (4) regular hexagonal cells, sunk into the pigment below which extends some distance up the walls of these cells. In each of the concave depressions thus formed there is a conic short rod (Stäbchen or Zapfen) attached by its broad base to the pigment layer and continued upward into a slender nervous thread, extending through the middle of the cell to the central (3) ganglia cell. This species seems to be far-sighted, not retracting the feelers or Papillæ at the approach

of the scissors until actually touched. It is assumed that the concave lenses in the facets are cœnogenetic and produced for the purpose of counteracting the effect of the excessive curvature of the lens, which is adapted for seeing in water and not in air. This species lives on land. — 8) Observations on some Australian Polychæta. By W. A. Haswell, M.A., B.Sc., etc. This consists of a series of notes Zoological and Anatomical, on various Australian species of marine Annelides of the genera *Syllis*, *Gnathosyllis*, *Eulalia*, *Siphonostoma*, *Halla*, and *Staurocephalus*. — 9) Descriptions of two new Fishes from Port Jackson. By E. P. Ramsay, F.R.S.E., etc., and J. Douglas-Ogilby, Australian Museum. The two Fishes here described are named *Seriola simplex* and *Nannocampus ruber*. — Mr. Whitelegge exhibited a number of water insects (*Nolonecta*), with small mollusks attached to their legs, and suggested this as a probable way of the distribution of mollusca and fish ova over the country. He also exhibited some fresh water Polyzoa killed with the tentacles fully extended by means of chloroform. Mr. Macleay also exhibited for Mr. Wilkinson, specimens of a Fossil Crustacean from Forrest River, Cambridge Gulf, which Mr. Haswell pronounced to be a *Thalassina*, a genus which burrows in the mud of Mangrove Swamps. — Mr. Ramsay, F.R.S.E., Curator of the Australian Museum, exhibited the following fossil bones recently obtained from the tertiary deposits in the caves of Wellington Valley. 1) No. B., 6148. — The premaxillaries and scalpriform incisors of a new species of Phascalomys, *P. curvirostris*, Owen; Mr. Ramsay considered that a new genus should be created for the reception of the animal represented by this fossil, on account of the peculiar depressed and indented anterior position of the palate and peculiar curvature of the lower borders of the premaxillaries. 2. B. 5936. — This fossil represents the palate and molars of the skull of a new species of kangaroo, *Palorchestes rephaim*, Owen, the form of the foremost premolar (usually represented by the formula 4 d) is different in shape, being broadly triangular with rounded cusps and the other teeth are relatively larger and the molar series longer than in other known species. 3. B. 5939. — This is the left Os innominatum, and 4. B. 5938 is the right femur of probably the same animal *P. rephaim*, Owen, while 5. B. 6442, is probably a collar bone or clavicle of the same. —

IV. Personal-Notizen.

Christiania. Dr. R. Collett ist im October 1885 zum Professor der Zoologie und Director des Zoologischen Museums an der Universität Christiania ernannt worden.

Necrolog.

Am 3. October 1885 starb in Bergen, Norwegen, Dr. Johan Koren, Conservator des Bergenschen Museums, ein um die Kenntnis der wirbellosen Thiere der Nordsee äußerst verdienter Forscher.

Berichtigung.

In No. 213 des Zool. Anzeigers p. 27 Z. 11 und 12 v. o. ist zu lesen: »in una soluzione di ammoniaca nell' acqua distillata all' 1%, finchè abbiano perduto« etc., und Z. 17 »un tono profondo« statt »sono«.

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Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

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