

In the communication published in April I remarked upon the improbability of Rabl-Rückhard's suggestion (Zool. Anzeiger 1881, p. 281) that a commissure in the roof of the ventriculus communis in the Reptilian brain represents the fornix. His hypothesis proves to be untenable on several grounds<sup>2</sup>. The brain of *Tropidonotus* has a very large anterior commissure and a distinct but feebly developed corpus callosum. In transverse sections, through the terminal plate, we observe the pars olfactoria below, then the pars temporalis and at some distance above this, the corpus callosum. At either side of the corpus callosum are distinct vertical tracts which pass above into the callosal bundle and probably unite with the commissura cornu ammonis. Below, they descend behind the anterior commissure. These tracts probably represent the columns of the fornix. This conclusion is founded upon the close resemblance between the relations of the fibre tracts above described and those observed in the embryo mammalian brain. I hope soon to procure more complete sections which will enable me to confirm this interesting observation.

August, 27th 1886.

<sup>2</sup> Morphol. Jahrbuch 12. Bd. p. 250.

### III. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

#### 1. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

30<sup>th</sup> June, 1886. — 1) Note on *Ctenodax Wilkinsoni*. By William Macleay, F.L.S., etc. It is here explained that the fish described by Mr. Macleay under the above name has been ascertained by Dr. Ramsay of the Australian Museum to be closely allied to *Tetragonurus Cuvieri* of Risso. Some remarks are also made on the habits and affinities of the fish. — 2) Geological. — 3) Notes on Australian Earthworms. Part I. By J. J. Fletcher, M.A., B.Sc. Up to the present time but three Australian Earthworms have been described, *Lumbricus Noræ-Hollandiæ*, Kinberg, and *Digaster lumbricoides*, Perrier, from N.S.W., and *Megascolides australis*, McCoy, from Victoria. In this paper a fuller account is given of Kinberg's species, and descriptions are given of six new or undescribed worms from the rich volcanic soil of Burrawang and of Mt. Wilson. Of these, two species (*P. Coxii* and *P. australis*) are referred to Schmarda's genus *Perichæta*; two others (*N. Camdenensis* and *N. grandis*) are included in a new intracitellian genus *Notoscolex*; a fifth (*Didymogaster silvaticus*) also is intracitellian but differs from *Notoscolex*; and the sixth (*Cryptodrilus*) is postcitellian, with eight rows of setæ, but is different from *Digaster*. Three of these, as far as is known at present, occur only at Burrawang, one at Mt. Wilson only, one is common to both localities as well as Sydney, and one occurs at Burrawang, Springwood and Jervis Bay. Mr. Fletcher has heard of the occurrence of worms, some of them very large, in the Hunter and Manning River districts, and probably these, as well as Illawarra, the Richmond and Clarence districts

and other parts of the colony will yield, when systematically searched, a good harvest of earthworms. He therefore appeals to the members of the Society resident in these or other localities, either for information or for specimens put alive into good methylated spirit, or sent alive packed in a tin box or large bottle, with a little earth and plenty of damp moss. Information as to the existence or otherwise of earthworms in the plains of the interior would also be very valuable. — 4) Notes on the Distribution of *Ceratella fusca*, Gray from the Coast of New South Wales. By John Brazier, C.M.Z.S., etc. A number of instances are given of the occurrence of this Hydrozoon near the Heads of Port Jackson. Mr. Brazier also mentions that a specimen sent from the British Museum to the Australian Museum as *Ceratella fusca* Gray, is really *Dehitella atrorubens* Gray, from Algoa Bay. — In connection with the above paper, Mr. Brazier exhibited specimens of *Ceratella fusca* Gray, from N. S. Wales coast, *Hydractinia echinata* Fleming, from England, *Dehitella atrorubens* Gray, from Algoa Bay, and *Chitina ericopsis* Carter, from the Pacific. — Mr. Brazier also exhibited for Mr. Deane specimens of *Pecten tegula* Wood, *Vola fumata*, Reeve, *Patella tramoserica* Martyn, and a piece of wood, all obtained while sinking the cylinders for the railway bridge over the Parramatta River at Ryde, at a depth of from 30 to 40 feet below the bed of the river. — Mr. John Mitchell exhibited a very fine collection of Silurian fossils from Bowning, near Yass, including a number of Mollusca, of Trilobites (*Phacops*, *Harpes*, *Bronteus*, *Acidaspis*, and others); and several Graptolites, probably undescribed, and certainly the first recorded from N.S.W., showing that the formations there which have hitherto been regarded as Devonian are in reality Silurian, underlying the strata in which the Devonian fossils, which had been supposed to determine the age of the whole, were found. Mr. Mitchell also exhibited fossil specimens of marsupial teeth and bones from the caves of Cave Flat, Murrumbidgee, these being the first specimens obtained from that locality. — Mr. Macleay exhibited a very large specimen of a female *Tragoceras lepidopteris*, Schreibers, which had been cut out of a tree at Mount Victoria. Also the piece of wood from which the Insect had been obtained. He said he would be glad to know the name of the tree, as a clue to the habits of the Insect, which was the finest of our Longicorns, and extremely rare. — Mr. Whitelegge exhibited several microscopical slides of an Hydroid Zoophyte from Bondi Bay, which he identified as the *Ceratella fusca*, Gray. It is evident from the descriptions given by Bale, and also by Lendenfeld, that neither of them had seen the species, so that this is probably the first record of it since its description in 1868. —

28<sup>th</sup> July, 1886. — 1) On some New or Rare Fishes from the Australian Region. By E. P. Ramsay, F.R.S.E., etc., and J. Douglas-Ogilby. A few notes are given on the curious Blennoid genus *Xiphasia* of Swainson, and a description is given of a species — *Xiphasia setifer*, Swainson — now for the first time taken in Australian waters. *Arrhamphus sclerolepis* and *Gastroteleus biaculeatus* are recorded as fishes not previously seen on the New South Wales coast. — 2) Catalogue of the Australian Coleoptera. Part V. By George Masters. The present part contains the large family of the Curculionidae, numbering over 1200 species, and bringing the total number now catalogued up to 5625. It was stated that probably two more parts would complete the Order Coleoptera. — 3) Miscellanea Entomologica,

No. 2. The genus *Liparetrus*. By William Macleay, F.L.S., etc. This is a complete monograph of the genus *Liparetrus*. All the old species are redescribed, many new ones added, and the genus is subdivided into several sections and subsections. Altogether about 100 species are characterized. — 4) Revision of the Australian Lepidoptera, No. 1. By E. Meyrick, B.A., F.E.S., etc. Five families of the Macro-Lepidoptera or Lesiadae, Arctiadae, Hypsidae, Syntomididae and Zygaenidae are monographed, numbering about 150 species, about half that number being new to Science. — 5) Notes on Synonymy of Australian Micro-Lepidoptera. By E. Meyrick, B.A., F.E.S., etc. The synonymy of fifteen species of Micro-Lepidoptera is corrected, from an examination of specimens in the British Museum. — Mr. Douglas-Ogilby exhibited the tongue of a specimen of *Lates calcarifer* shewing that it is partially covered with patches of granulose teeth, as previously pointed out by Dr. Bleeker and the Hon. W. Macleay, but denied by European Naturalists; the lingual teeth are similar in form and composition to those of the other tooth-bearing bones, and the term villiform cannot be applied to them. — Mr. Macleay exhibited eighty-five species from his own collection of the insects described in his paper on the genus *Liparetrus*. — Dr. Ramsay exhibited photographs of the skeleton of *Megaceros Hibernicus*, the Irish Elk, taken from a very fine specimen recently received by the Australian Museum; Tasmanian stone axes — all pebbles rudely chipped and without definite shape; and a double-headed axe from the Admiralty Islands. — Mr. Brazier exhibited a large series of shells of the genus *Triton* comprising examples of the following species; *Triton Tritonis*, Linn., from the Solomon Islands; *T. nodiferus*, Lam., from Marseilles, France; and the variety *T. australis* from Berry's Bay, and Bottle and Glass Rocks, Port Jackson, and from Port Stephens. The type from the Mediterranean is a thick and heavy shell, whereas the Australian variety is much thinner. The latter extends also to Japan. — Mr. Masters exhibited a living specimen of *Phyllurus inermis*, the »rock scorpion« of quarrymen — caught at Elizabeth Bay, a lizard which is now becoming scarce about Sydney; and a specimen of each sex of a N. American butterfly — *Papilio androgeus* — together with a third specimen shewing the characteristic form and colour of both sexes one on the right, the other on the left half of the insect. — Mr. C. S. Wilkinson exhibited a very large specimen of *Aphanaia gigantea*, and a piece of sandstone with numerous minute markings believed to be those of ostracoid shells, both obtained by Mr. David, F.G.S., from the marine beds of the Lower Coal Measures, near Patterson; also a specimen of a remarkable species of *Planorbis* embedded in ferruginous sandstone, from a depth of 25 feet from the surface at Cockatoo Island. This specimen was sent by Mr. J. H. Maiden, and it is of much interest, being the first fossil shell found in the Hawkesbury formation.

## IV. Personal-Notizen.

Göttingen. (Berichtigung.)

Zoolog. Institut. Dr. O. Hamann, Assistent und Privatdocent.

Dr. Herm. Henking (nicht Heuking).

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Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Zoologischer Anzeiger](#)

Jahr/Year: 1886

Band/Volume: [9](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonymous

Artikel/Article: [1. Linnean Society of New South Wales 578-580](#)