

ganzen Form nach die normalen. Der dritte ist plan-convex, der erste Caudalwirbel concav-convex und trägt einen unteren Bogen. Es ist also der erste Caudalwirbel in einen Sacralwirbel verwandelt worden; außerdem sind aber nur 23 praesacrale Wirbel vorhanden.

3. Fall. *Crocodylus acutus* (jung).

Der erste Caudalwirbel ist in einen Sacralwirbel verwandelt; außerdem existiren aber 24 praesacrale Wirbel.

Ich kann einen weiteren Fall hinzufügen. Bei einem *Alligator mississippiensis* beginnt der letzte Lumbalwirbel sich in einen Sacralwirbel umzubilden, er zeigt eine kleine Sacralrippe (Paradiacostoid Albrecht), welche aber das Ilium noch nicht berührt. Daneben existiren 23 praesacrale Wirbel.

Yale College Museum, New Haven, Conn., 29. Oct. 1886.

III. Mittheilungen aus Museen, Instituten etc.

1. Glycerinpraeparate von ganzen Thieren und deren Theilen.

Von Dr. Johannes Frenzel, Berlin.

eingeg. 11. November 1886.

Nach der von mir mitgetheilten Methode (cf. Zoolog. Jahrbücher 1. Bd. Heft 1) werden nunmehr unter meiner Leitung Glycerinpraeparate von ganzen Thieren und von anatomischen Objecten angefertigt, in ähnlicher Weise, wie dieselben auf der Ausstellung der 59. Versammlung deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte zu Berlin zu sehen waren. Den Vertrieb dieser Praeparate hat das Naturhistorische Institut »Linnaea«, Berlin N. 4, Invalidenstr. 38, übernommen.

Die Aufstellung sämtlicher Objecte ist eine derartige, daß ihre einzelnen Theile mit Leichtigkeit demonstrirt werden können, was besonders für die anatomischen Praeparate gilt, wodurch sie den in Spiritus aufbewahrten vorzuziehen sind. Es sollen womöglich alle Hauptvertreter des Thierreichs mit Ausnahme der Coelenteraten herangezogen werden, besonders Spongien, Echinodermen, Decapoden, Cephalopoden, Amphibien und Reptilien. Von anatomischen Praeparaten kommen zur Ausführung kleinere Säugethiere, Frösche, einige Fische etc. — Die Aufbewahrung dieser Praeparate geschieht am besten an einem staubfreien, trockenen Orte.

2. Linnean Society of London.

4th Nov. 1886. — The President (W. Carruthers) drew attention to stained specimens under the microscope of phosphorescent Organisms chiefly *Ceratium tripos* obtained by him in the Forth of Clyde in Sept. last. Mr. John

Murray thereafter made further remarks on the same, stating that near the Cumbrae Islands immense quantities of yellow gelatinous material containing these organisms in abundance were obtained at every haul of the net. He alluded to his own observations of the species being found in long chains in mid-ocean (Narr. Cruise of Challenger), and to Klebs' opinion of *Ceratium* being a gland of unicellular Algae and not a true Infusorian as ordinarily inferred. — Dr. Francis Day exhibited a Salmon Parr 20 months old, raised at Howietown from parents which had never visited the sea. Dr. Day also exhibited some coloured drawings made in Oct. last at Howietown of hybrids raised there. One was a cross between the American Charr and the Loch Leven Trout, another a cross between the American and the British Charr, and a third between the last mentioned hybrid and the Loch Leven Trout; all were fertile. — Mr. F. P. Pascoe exhibited examples of a remarkable mode of growth of the Acorn-shell (*Balanus*). From the specimens shown it would appear that several neighbouring animals had united their shells to form a tube common to them; the outer valves of each individual moreover had more or less lengthened and formed a series of irregular subsidiary tubes radiating from the apex of the primary one. — Mr. Edward C. Bousfield read a paper on the natural History of the genus *Dero*. In this he shows that *Nais digitata* Müll. cannot be identified, and he therefore rejects the specific name. He gives a full account of the habits of the Deros, and the best methods of observing them. He proceeds to show wherein they differ from the Naides and describes the chief characteristics of the genus, viz. — The respiratory apparatus at the end of the tail. He gives diagnoses of seven species, four being new to science; all are figured. — Mr. Stuart O. Ridley followed by a paper on the genus *Lophopus* with description of a new species from Australia. This latter was obtained by Dr. von Lendenfeld near Sydney N. S. W., and it is distinguished from *L. crystallinus* chiefly by the great length of the tentacles, which equal that of the body of the polypide, and by the oval non-pointed outline of the statoblast. The new form *L. Lendenfeldi* is the fourth freshwater Polyzoon recorded from Australia, and the first species of its genus satisfactorily determined from the southern hemisphere. Staining with borax-carminé brings out certain multipolar nucleated cells in the ectocyst, which appear not to have been previously described in this genus. They perhaps indicate that the ectocyst contains mesodermal elements and hence that it may be something more than a mere epithelium. The characters of the species in question necessitate a modification of the old diagnosis of the genus as regards the shape of the statoblast etc. — J. Murie.

3. Linnean Society of New South Wales.

29th September, 1886. — 1) A Revision of the Staphylinidæ of Australia. By A. Sidney Olliff, F.E.S., Assistant Zoologist, Australian Museum. Part II. This part, containing the members of the sub-family *Tachyporinæ*, is another contribution to a general revision of the family. No marked Australian forms have been found and the new forms are of the ordinary type. The genera *Tachyporus*, *Tachinus*, and *Boletobius* are added to the Australian fauna. With this instalment is issued the plate (VII.) which would have accompanied the first part, but for an

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