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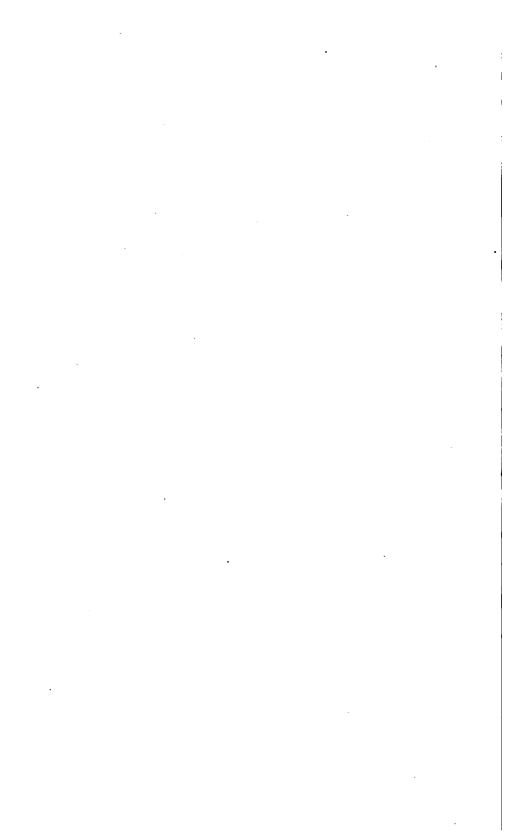






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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

OF LONDON.

PART IV. 1836.

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LIST

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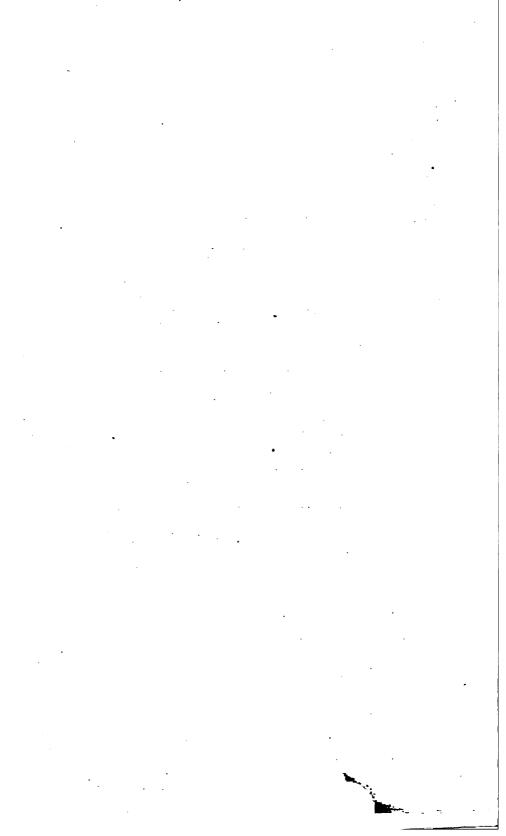
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	page
BENNETT, E. T., Esq. Remarks upon a series of the Indian Antelope (Antilope cervicapra, Pall.) On the Brush-tailed Kangaroo (Macropus penicillatus, Gray)	3 4 41
Bennett, Frederick Debell, Esq. Notes on the anatomy of the Spermaceti Whale (Physeter macrocephalus, Lac.)	127
BENNETT, G., Esq. Notes relating to the habits of the Spermaceti Whale, and to a large species of Grampus, called the Killer Observations on a species of Glaucus, referred to G. hexapterygius of Cuvier	53 113
Bete, Capt. Berton, Lieut. Denation of Birds from Swan River	85
BRODERIF, W. J., Esq. Description of some new species of Shells belonging to the genera Spondylus, Voluta, Conus, Purpura, and Bulinus.	43
Burton, E., Esq. Description of a new species of Pipra	113
Cuvier, M. F. Memoir on the genera Dipus and Gerbillus	141
Dugmore, Rev. H. Note respecting a Sea Eagle (Haliatus albicilla, Sav.), in the possession of LieutCol. Mason, of Neeton Hall near Swaffham, Norfolk	49

FULLER, E., Esq.	page
Notice of the rearing of two hybrids from a Barn-door Hen, having a cross from a Pheasant, and a Pheasant cock	84
GARNER, R., Esq. On the anatomy of the Lamellibranchiate Conchiferous animals	12
Gould, Mr. J.	
Characters of some new species of Birds in the Society's	_
On a new genus of Birds, Kittacincla	5
Exhibition of Trogon resplendens and T. pavoninus	7 12
Characters of some new Birds in the Society's Collection,	14
including two new genera, Paradoxornis and Actinodura Exhibition of Birds from North Africa presented to the	17
Society by Sir Thomas Reade, with other specimens sent by	59
M. Temminck to Mr. Gould	JJ
genus. Aplonis	73
Characters of a new species of Ortyx from Mexico and two	
new species of Zosterops from New South Wales	75
Characters of three new species of the genus Strix	140
Characters of some new species of Birds belonging to the	00
genera Tamatia and Cursorius	80 85
Exhibition of Birds allied to the European Wren, with	
characters of new species	88
Characters of new species of Birds from New South Wales	104
Exhibition of the specimens figured in the first part of	
Mr. Gould's work on the 'Australian Birds,' with characters	140
of the new species	142
Gray, J. E., Esq.	
Memoir on the genus Moschus of Linnæus, with descrip-	
tions of two new species	63
Observations upon the tufts of hair observable upon the	
posterior legs of the genus Cervus, as a character of that	
group, and as a means of subdividing it into natural sections	66
Characters of some new species of Mammalia in the So-	
ciety's Collection, with remarks upon the dentition of the Carnivora, and upon the value of the characters used by M.	
Cuvier to separate the plantigrade from the digitigrade Car-	
nivora,	87
Remark upon the habits of the Cuckoo	104
On a peculiarity in the structure of the ligament in some	
bivalve shells	104
Remarks upon a specimen of Argonauta with an Ocythoë	
from the Cape of Good Hope	121

v	
Green, Capt. Note describing a specimen of the Barn-door <i>Hen</i> which had assumed the <i>Cock</i> plumage	page 49
HARVEY, J. B., Esq. Note upon the thickening of the lip of Rostellaria pes Pelicani, Lam. Letter referring to a collection of marine productions, including a specimen of Capros Aper, Lacep., and a new species of Tubularia (T. gracilis, Harv.), collected on the south coast of Devonshire, and presented by the writer to the Society. Notice of the occurrence of four specimens of Velella limbosa, Lam., on the beach at Teignmouth	46 54 79
Exhibition of Fossils from Devonshire, and some species of Ophiura and Asterias from that coast	104
Henning, Lieut., R.N. Note addressed to Col. Sykes mentioning the capture of an Albatross by means of a hook	63
Heron, Sir R., Bart. Notes on the breeding of Curassows at Stubton	1
Hodgson, B. H., Esq. On some Scolopacidæ of Nipâl On the lachrymal sinus in Antilope Thar, and Cervus Ari-	7
stotelis Notice of seven species of Vespertilionidæ observed in the central region of Nepal	39
Description of a new species of Cervus (C. Barhaiya, Hodg.) MACKAY, R., Esq. Letter describing the habits of a Vulture (Vultur Papa, Linn.)	
Martin, Mr. W. Notes of the Dissection of a Vulpine Opossum (Phalangista Vulpina, Cuv.) Notice of a rudimentary canine tooth in a female of a species of Deer from South America Notes on the visceral and osteological anatomy of the Ca-	2 3 4
riama (Dicholophus cristatus, Ill.)	32) 55
Description of two species of the genus Cercoleptes Description of a new species of the genus Felis	109 82

Martin, Mr. W. (continued.) Description of the osteology of the Sea Otter (Enhydra	page
marina, Flem.) Notes on the dissection of the Chilian Bush Rat (Octodon	59
Cumingii, Benn.)	70
Ogilby, W., Esq. Observations upon the opposable power of the thumb in certain <i>Mammals</i> , considered as a zoological character, and on the natural affinities which subsist between the <i>Bimana</i> ,	
Quadrumana, and Pedimana	25
(Antilope Cervicapra, Pall.) Remarks upon the probable identity of Cynictis melanurus Mart., with a species noted by Boshman under the name of	.38
Kokebog	56
Remarks upon Chironectes Yapook, Desm	56
Remarks upon two Antelopes (Koba and Kob of Buffon)	102
Remarks upon Canis Himalaicus, Ogilb	103
Remarks upon some rare or undescribed Ruminants in the	
Society's Collection	119
On the generic characters of Ruminants	131
On the generic characters of trammants	101
Owen, R., Esq. Descriptions of some new or rare Cephalopoda collected by	
Mr. George Bennett	19
On the shell and animal of Argonauta hians, Lam Remarks on the secretion in the lachrymal sinus of the Indian Antelope (Antilope Cervicapra, Pall.), with a tabular view of the relations between the habits and habitats of the	22
several species of Antelopes and their suborbital, maxillary,	0.0
post-auditory, and inguinal glands	36
the Chimpanzee (Simia Troglodytes, Linn.)	41
bat, Per.)	49
powers of Hybrids	85
On a new Orang (Simia Morio)	91
a new genus, Gnathostoma	123
Reid, James, Esq.	
Description of a new species of the genus Perameles (P. Lagotis)	129
Pinner De	
RÜPPELL, Dr. On the existence of canine teeth in an Abyssinian Antelope (A. montana, Rüpp.)	3
for more and both and both and a second a second and a second and a second and a second and a second a second and a second a second and	•

STRICKLAND, H. E., Esq. List of Birds noticed in Asia Minor in the winter of 1835,	page
and in the spring of 1836	97 102
THIBAUT, M.	102
Letter relative to the capture of the Giraffes	9
Vigors, N. A., Esq. Characters of a new and singular form among the <i>Tinamous</i> (<i>Tinamotis Pentlandii</i> , Vig.) Characters of two new <i>Parrots</i> in the Society's Collection	79
(Psittacus augustus, and Ps. Guildingii, Vig.)	80
Remarks upon the productive powers of female Hybrids.	84
WATERHOUSE, G. R., Esq. Description of a new genus (Myrmecobius) of Mammiferous animals from New Holland, probably belonging to the Marsupial type	69 131
WILLIAMSON, W. C., Esq. Notes on the appearance of rare Birds in the vicinity of Scarborough	76
YARRELL, W., Esq. Notice of the Dottrell (Charadrius Morinellus, Linn.)	
breeding at Skiddaw, and of the gray Snipe (Macroramphus griseus, Leach,) having been obtained near Carlisle Exhibition of part of Mr. Yarrell's collection of British Fish, with observations upon the method made use of in pre-	1
paring them Remarks upon the productiveness of Hybrids Notice of a large Carp taken at the Mere near Payne's Hill	47 84
	109



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

January 12, 1836.

William Yarrell, Esq., in the Chair.

A NOTE addressed to the Secretary by Sir Robert Heron, Bart. M.P. was read. It referred to the writer's success in the breeding of Curassows in the last summer at Stubton.

From two individuals in his possession, the male of which is entirely black, and the female of the mottled reddish brown colour which is regarded as characteristic of the Crax rubra, Linn., Sir R. Heron has hatched in the last year six young ones in three broods of two eggs each: the eggs were placed under turkeys and common hens. Respecting one of them no notes were made; but the other five were all of the red colour of the female parent. Two of these, which were at two or three weeks old very strong, being still in the flower-garden, were killed in the night by a rat that had eaten its way into the coop in which they were. Two others were sent to the Earl of Derby, who wanted hens. The remaining one is now nearly, if not quite, full grown; and Sir R. Heron proposes to place it with the old pair.

"There is one great peculiarity," Sir R. Heron remarks, "attending the old pair. Their principal food is Indian corn and greens, both which they eat in common: but whenever any biscuit is given to them, as an occasional treat when visitors are here, the male breaks it and takes it in his mouth; waiting, however long, until the hen takes it out of his bill; which she does without the slightest mark of civility, although on excellent terms with him. This proceeding is invariable."

Mr. Yarrell, on behalf of T. C. Heysham, Esq., of Carlisle, exhibited the egg, the young bird of a week old, one of a month old, and the adult female of the *Dottrell*, *Charadrius Morinellus*, Linn., obtained on Skiddaw in the summer of 1835. Several pairs were breeding in the same locality.

He also stated that a specimen of the grey Snipe, Macroramphus griseus, Leach, a young bird of the year, has been obtained near No. XXXVII.—Proceedings of the Zoological Scriety.

Carlisle in the past year. This is the third recorded instance of the occurrence of the species in England.

The following notes by Mr. Martin of a dissection of a Vulpine

Opossum, Phalangista Vulpina, Cuv., were read.

"This animal, which died a short time since at the Gardens of the Society, was a female. In the length of the body it measured 1 foot 43 inches, exclusive of the head, which from nose to occiput measured 33 inches: the tail somewhat exceeded 11 inches. There was no abdominal pouch: the mammæ were two in number, about a quarter of an inch apart, very small, pointed, and retracted within the skin. The body was loaded with fat, and a layer of that substance, fully half an inch in thickness, lined the abdominal and psoas muscles.

"On leaving the *pylorus*, the *duodenum* was found to dip down to about the middle lumbar *vertebra*, where it crossed the spine, and then making an acute turn ascended till it reached the *pylorus*, where it again turned down abruptly, and lost, in the convolutions of the

succeeding portion, or jejunum, its distinctive appellation.

"The stomach was large and simple, with a considerable cardiac pouch; when distended with air, its circumference measured 84 inches, and the great curvature 13.

"The omentum was very extensive, and loaded with fat.

"The pancreus was thin and indefinite, blending with the fat of the mesentery. It consisted of a main portion or body lying beneath the stomach, whence it spread to the mesentery, a broad slip adhering

to the duodenum for about 2 inches.

"The liver was not unlike a fig-leaf in general outline, being deeply split into six distinct lobes,—three on the right, and three on the left, besides the lobulus Spigelii. In the middle fissure was seated the gall-bladder, its fundus being visible in situ naturali. The shape of this vesicule was, as usual, oval. It was filled with yellow bile. Its duct, which measured altogether $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, received, at about half an inch from its commencement, several very small hepatic ducts, and entered the duodenum, with the pancreatic, 3 inches below the pylorus. "The spleen consisted of three processes or radii from a central

"The spleen consisted of three processes or radii from a central body: one of these processes adhered to the cardiac portion of the stomach; another floated in the omentum; and the third, bound by

the mesentery, just covered the left kidney.

"The total length of the intestines was 11 feet 8 inches; the length of the small intestines being 6 feet 10, and of the large 4 feet 10. The mean diameter of the small intestines was half an inch. The mean diameter of the large at their origin was three quarters of an inch; but they contracted as they proceeded to one quarter, and the rectum subsequently enlarged to three quarters. The narrow part was filled with irregular knotted faces. There were no longitudinal bands or sacculi. The texture of the large intestines was thin, and the circular fibres very distinct. The cacum was long and convoluted on the mesentery, and narrowed gradually to a point; its length was 1 foot 44 inches.

"The right kidney was higher than the left. The suprarenal

capsules adhered to their upper apex. These bodies were firm, of small size, flat, and hollow. The length of the kidneys was 14 inch; their breadth three quarters. The tubuli converged to a single point,

not elevated into a distinct papilla.

"The lungs consisted of three lobes on the right and two on the left side. Daubenton, in his description of a species of *Phalanger*, states that he found but one lobe on the left side, which was a little notched in the middle, but in the present animal the lobes were fairly separate.

"The heart was elongated and pointed, the right ventricle not

extending to the apex. Its length was 14 inch.

"The anal, or rather common, opening, was surrounded by four large glandular follicles, full of creamy fluid of a rank disagreeable odour. The two on each side communicated together by means of a very fine tube, hardly larger than a hair. The vagina was longitudinally furrowed, its length to the orifices of the lateral tubes 2 inches. The clitoris was small, and about 3 lines long; above it were two small orifices, analogous perhaps to Cowper's glands. The body of the uterus was small, and its parietes thin and membranous. It was covered by the bladder, which concealed both this portion and its lateral canals and Fallopian tubes. These latter were somewhat more than an inch in length. The ovaries were small and compressed.

"The tongue was smooth: its length from the *epiglottis* to the tip, 2; inches; its breadth three quarters: its *apex* was somewhat acute. The *epiglottis* was broad and slightly bifid. The thyroid glands were oval, and half an inch long. The thyroid cartilage was remarkable for a rounded projection anteriorly, over which the os hyoides formed an adapted arch, capable of moving up and down on the projection, as drawn one way or other by its muscles.

"The morbid appearances consisted of great inflammation at the pylorus, with patches of an almost gangrenous appearance; a knot of enlarged mesenteric glands, which had begun to suppurate; and

extensive adhesions to each other of the small intestines.

A notice by Dr. Rüppell, For. Memb. Z. S., of the existence of canine teeth in an Abyssinian Antelope, Antilope montana, Rüpp., was read. It was accompanied by drawings of the structure described in it, which were exhibited.

The following is a translation of Dr. Rüppell's communication.

In several Mammalia of the order Ruminantia the adult males, and even some females, possess canine teeth, which are more or less developed; to these teeth no other use has been attributed than that of a weapon of defence. The Camels (Camelus), the Musk Deer (Moschus), and the Muntjak of India (Cervus Muntjak), possess these canine teeth in both sexes. In the red Deer (Cervus Elaphus) and in the rein Deer (Cerv. Tarandus), the adult males alone are provided with them.

I have just ascertained that there is a species of *Antelope* which possesses these canine teeth; but in which, by a singular anomaly.

it is only the young males that are furnished with them. too they can only be considered in the light of half-developed germs; for the cartilaginous part which covers the palate and the upper jaw

entirely conceals them.

It is the Ant. montana, which I discovered in 1824 in the neighbourhood of Sennaar, and of which I published in my 'Zoological Atlas' the figure of an adult male, that is provided, in its youth, with these anomalous canine teeth: the adults of both sexes, and the young females, are destitute of them. I observed, in my last journey in Abyssinia, many individuals of this species in the valleys in the neighbourhood of Gondar: it is far from rare in that locality, but the jungles mingled with thorns, which are its favourite retreat, ren-

der the chase of it extremely difficult.

At the time of the publication of my description of this new species, in 1826, I was possessed of only a single adult male, and there were consequently many deficiencies in my account of it. I am now enabled to add to this notice that the females of this species are always destitute of horns; that both sexes have, in the [groins] two rather deep pits covered by a stiff bundle of white hairs; and finally that the species lives in pairs in the valleys of the western part of Abyssinia, where it takes the place of Ant. Saltiana, an animal which it exceeds in size by nearly one half. These two species are called by the natives Madoqua, by which name the Abyssinians also designate the Ant. Grimmia, which equally constitutes a part of the game of that country, so rich in different forms of the Ruminant order.—E. R.

A note by Mr. Martin was subsequently read, in which it was stated that it had once occurred to him to observe a rudimentary canine tooth in the female of a species of Deer from South America, the body of which had been sent to the Society's house by Sir P. Grey Egerton, for examination. Having noticed an enlargement of the gum of the upper jaw, in the situation in which a canine tooth might possibly be supposed to exist, he cut into it, and found the germ of a canine tooth, about 3 lines in length, imbedded in the gum, and destitute of fang.

January 26, 1836.

N. A. Vigors, Esq., in the Chair.

Specimens were exhibited of numerous Birds, chiefly from the Society's collection; and Mr. Gould, at the request of the Chairman, directed the attention of the Meeting to those among them which he regarded as principally interesting either on account of their novelty or for the peculiarity of their form.

They included the following species of the genus *Edolius*, Cuv., which were compared with numerous others placed upon the table

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EDOLIUB GRANDIB. Ed. ater viridi metallicè splendens; capite cristato; rectricum duarum externarum scapis longissimis, vexillis ad apicem latè spatulatis.

Long. tot. (rectricibus externis exclusis) 14 unc.; rostri, 1; alæ.

63; caudæ, 7; tarsi, 17.

Rostrum pedesque nigri.

Hab. in Nepalia et (verosimiliter) in Sumatra.

This species may be distinguished from Ed. Malabaricus by its superiority in size, and by the greater fullness and length of its crest. The recurved feathers of the upper part of the head measure an inch and a half in length.

EDOLIUS RANGOONENSIS. Ed. ater viridi splendens; rectricum externarum scapis longissimis, vexillis late spatulatis ad apicis marqinem exteriorem præditis.

Long. tot. (rectricibus externis exclusis) 12 unc.; rostri, 1+; ala,

Rostrum pedesque nigri. Hab. apud Rangoon.

Distinguishable from Ed. Malabaricus, to which it is nearly allied, by its shorter beak, and by the total absence from its forehead of the fine curled plumes which decorate that bird; the wing is also somewhat shorter.

EDOLIUS CRISHNA. Ed. velutino-ater viridi metallicè (præsertim ad alas) splendens; gutturis plumis sublanceolatis, viridibus; capite pilis longissimis pluribus ornato; rectricum externarum vexillis spiraliter intortis.

Long. tot. (rectricibus externis exclusis) 12 unc.; rostri, 14; ala,

7; caudæ, 6; tarsi, 1.

Crishna Crow, Lath., Hist.

Hab. in Nepaliâ.

The bill of this species is more cultrated and lengthened than is usual in the genus. The outer feathers of the tail, which are spi-

rally reflected inwards, are not so much produced as those of Ed. Malabaricus. A very curious character is furnished by the long, hair-like, black filaments which spring from the head and measure nearly 4 inches in length.

EDOLIUS VIRIDESCENS. Ed. intense splendenti chalybeo-viridis, suprà magis saturatus.

Long. tot. 11 unc.; rostri, 1\(\frac{1}{4}\); alæ, 5\(\frac{3}{4}\); caudæ, 5; tarsi, 1.

Rostrum pedesque nigri. Hab. apud Manillam.

The remaining previously undescribed Birds that were exhibited were characterized by Mr. Gould as follows:

ORPHEUS MODULATOR. Orph. saturate brunneus, alis pallidioribus albo bifasciatis; corpore subtùs, gutture, genis, strigdque superciliari cinerascenti-albidis; rectricum (præter intermediarum quatuor) apicibus late albis.

Long. tot. 10 unc.; rostri, \(\frac{1}{4}\); cauda, \(5\); tarsi, \(\frac{1}{4}\).

Rostrum pedesque saturatè brunnei.

Hab. in Fretu Magellanico.

This is by far the largest of the genus, and is very similar in all its markings to both Orph. polyglottus and Orph. minor. Although the bird from which the above character is drawn is from the Straits of Magalhaens, Mr. Gould is inclined to believe that it occurs in Brazil also, and considers it as being, very probably, the Turdus Orpheus of Spix, and the grey Pie of Brazil of Edwards.

The bands on the wings are produced by the white tips of the

secondaries.

Ixos leucotis. Ixos suprà cinereo-brunneus, subtùs pallidior; vertice, gutture, pectoreque nigris; auribus genisque albis; tectricibus caudæ inferioribus ochraceis; caudd ad basin cinered in nigrescenti-brunneum apicem versus transeunte, rectricum omnium apicibus albis.

Long. tot. 61 unc.; rostri, 4; alæ, 31; caudæ, 3; tarsi, 4.

Rostrum pedesque saturatè brunnei.

Hab. in Îndiâ Orientali.

COLLURICINCIA FUSCA. Coll. suprà saturatè brunnea, plumis omnibus pallidiore marginatis; subtùs cinereo-albida, plumis in medio lunuld brunned notatis; uropygii plumarum rectricumque apicibus albis.

Long. tot. 11 unc.; rostri, 5\(\frac{1}{2}\); alæ, 5\(\frac{1}{2}\); caudæ, 5; tarsi, 1\(\frac{1}{2}\).

Rostrum pedesque pallidè brunnei.

Hab. vel in Novâ Zeelandiâ vel in Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

This species is fully a third larger than the Coll. cinerea described by Mr. Vigors and Dr. Horsfield in the 'Linnean Transactions.'

TRICHOPHORUS FLAVEOLUS. Trich. cristatus, suprà olivaceo-flavescens, subtùs flavus; alis caudaque olivaceo-brunneis; genis guttureque sordidè albis. Long. tot. 8 unc.; rostri, 1; alæ, 4; caudæ, 3‡; tarsi, ‡. Rostrum pedesque corneo-brunnei.

Hab. in montibus Himalayensibus, in Nepalia, &c.

The crest consists of elongated feathers, intermingled with the hairy bristles usual in the genus.

GEOCICHLA RUBECULA. Geo. dorso, alis, caudaque saturate caruleocinereis, alis albo late fasciatis; capite, collo, corporeque subtus nitide ferrugineis; crisso caudaque tectricibus inferioribus albis. Long. tot. 8 unc.; rostri, 1; ala, 44; cauda, 2;; tarsi, 14.

Rostrum nigrum; tarsi brunnei.

Hab. in Javâ.

This pretty species resembles in many respects the *Red-breast*, *Erithacus Rubecula*, Swains. It belongs to an interesting group, which was first characterized by M. Kuhl, and of which the Society's collection possesses four well-marked species.

Mr. Gould subsequently directed the attention of the Meeting to a specimen of the Turdus macrourus of Dr. Latham, with the view of explaining the characters which induced him to regard that bird as constituting the type of a new

Genus KITTACINCLA.

Rostrum caput longitudine æquans, ad apicem emarginatum, rectiusculum, compressiusculum.

Nares basales, plumis brevibus utplurimum tectæ.

Alæ mediocres, rotundatæ: remige 1må brevissimå, 4tå 5tåque subæqualibus, longioribus.

Cauda elongata, gradata.

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Tarsi digitique longiusculi, tenues.

Oss. Maribus color suprà utplurimum niger; subtùs brunneus vel albus.

A paper by B. H. Hodgson, Esq., Corr. Memb. Z.S., on some of the Scolopacidæ of Nipâl, was read; the copy transmitted by that gentleman to the Society containing various corrections of his memoir which was published at Calcutta in the 'Gleanings of Science' for August, 1831.

Mr. Hodgson's object in the present paper is to bring under the notice of zoologists the various species of the family referred to which occur in Nipâl, on the natural history of which country he has, during a residence of several years, been engaged in making most extensive researches. The result of these it is his intention immediately to publish, accompanied by finished representations of the animals, taken from drawings made in almost every instance from numerous living individuals of the several races.

Mr. Hodgson first describes in detail the common Woodcock, Scolopax Rusticola, Linn., as it occurs in Nipâl; where it is, in every respect of form and colour, evidently identical with the European bird. In Nipâl also it seems to be, as it is in Western Europe, of

migratory habits: and the periods of its arrival in, and departure from, Nipâl, correspond altogether with the seasons of its appearance and disappearance in England.

He then proceeds to describe in detail the several kinds of Snipe

which occur in Nipal.

Two of these are so nearly related to the common Snipe of Europe, Gallinago media, Ray, that Mr. Hodgson is induced to regard them as being probably specifically identical with that bird: and he accordingly refers them to it as varieties, which are constantly distinguished from each other by the structure of the tail. In one of them the tail-feathers are fourteen or sixteen in number, and are all of the same form: in the other the tail-feathers vary in number from twenty-two to twenty-eight; and the outer ones on either side, to the number of six, eight, or ten, differ remarkably from those of the middle, being narrow, hard, and acuminated. The latter bird may, however, be regarded as the representative of a species to which the name of Gall. heterura may be given.

The other two Snipes of Nipal are unquestionably distinct from those of Europe. They are described as the solitary Snipe, Gall. so-

litaria, Hodgs., and the wood Snipe, Gall. nemoricola, Ej.

In the solitary Snipe the wings are remarkably long; the upper surface, especially on the wings, is minutely dotted, barred, and streaked, with white intermingled with buff and brown; and the abdomen is white, barred along the flanks with brown.

The wood Snipe has the general colouring of the plumage dark and sombre; the wings short; the abdomen and the whole of the under surface thickly barred with transverse lines of dark brown on a dusky white ground; and a tail of sixteen or eighteen, or very

rarely twenty, feathers.

Mr. Hodgson describes, with the greatest minuteness, each of these birds, and adverts with the fullest detail to their several habits and distinguishing peculiarities, as well of manners and of seasons as of form and plumage.

February 9, 1836.

Rev. F. W. Hope in the Chair.

A letter was read, addressed to the Secretary by M. Thibaut, and dated Malta, January 8, 1836. It communicated various particulars relative to the Giraffes belonging to the Society, which have recently been obtained by the writer and which are now in his custody, and

may be translated as follows:-

"Having learnt, on my arrival at Malta, that you were desirous of information on the subject of the four Giraffes which the Society has entrusted to my care, I regard it as a duty to transmit to you a short statement, by which you will become aware of the difficulties that I encountered in obtaining and preserving for the Society these interesting animals, which are now, I hope, altogether out of

danger.

"Instructed by Colonel Campbell, His Majesty's Consul General in the Levant, and desirous of rendering available for the purposes of the Zoological Society the knowledge which I had acquired by twelve years' experience in travelling in the interior of Africa, I quitted Cairo on the 15th of April, 1834. After sailing up the Nile as far as Wadi Halfa (the second cataract), I took camels, and proceeded to Debbat, a province of Dongolah; whence, on the 14th of July, I started for the desert of Kordofan.

"Being perfectly acquainted with the locality, and on friendly terms with the Arabs of the country, I attached them to me still more by the desire of profit. All were desirous of accompanying me in my pursuit of the Giraffes, which, up to that time, they had hunted solely for the sake of the flesh, which they eat, and of the skin, from which they make bucklers and sandals. I availed myself of the emulation which prevailed among the Arabs, and as the season was far advanced and favourable, I proceeded immediately to

the south-west of Kordofan.

"It was on the 15th of August that I saw the first two Giraffes. A rapid chase, on horses accustomed to the fatigues of the desert, put us in possession, at the end of three hours, of the largest of the two: the mother of one of those now in my charge. Unable to take her alive, the Arabs killed her with blows of the sabre, and, cutting her to pieces, carried the meat to the head-quarters which we had established in a wooded situation; an arrangement necessary for our own comforts and to secure pasturage for the camels of both sexes which we had brought with us in aid of the object of our chase. We deferred until the morrow the pursuit of the young

No. XXXVIII.—Proceedings of the Zoological Society.

Giraffe, which my companions assured me they would have no difficulty in again discovering. The Arabs are very fond of the flesh of this animal. I partook of their repast. The live embers were quickly covered with slices of the meat, which I found to be excel-

lent eating.

"On the following day, the 16th of August, the Arabs started at daybreak in search of the young one, of which we had lost sight not far from our camp. The sandy nature of the soil of the desert is well adapted to afford indications to a hunter, and in a very short time we were on the track of the animal which was the object of our pursuit. We followed the traces with rapidity and in silence, cautious to avoid alarming the creature while it was yet at a distance from us. Unwearied myself, and anxious to act in the same manner as the Arabs, I followed them impatiently, and at 9 o'clock in the morning I had the happiness to find myself in possession of the Giraffe. A premium was given to the hunter whose horse had first come up with the animal, and this reward is the more merited as the laborious chase is pursued in the midst of brambles and of thorny trees.

"Possessed of this Giraffe, it was necessary to rest for three or four days, in order to render it sufficiently tame. During this period an Arab constantly holds it at the end of a long cord. By degrees it becomes accustomed to the presence of man, and takes a little nourishment. To furnish milk for it I had brought with me female camels. It became gradually reconciled to its condition, and was soon willing to follow, in short stages, the route of our caravan.

"This first Giraffe, captured at four days' journey to the south-west of Kordofan, will enable us to form some judgement as to its probable age at present; as I have observed its growth and its mode of life. When it first came into my hands, it was necessary to insert a finger into its mouth in order to deceive it into a belief that the nipple of its dam was there: then it sucked freely. According to the opinion of the Arabs, and to the length of time that I have had it, this first Giraffe cannot, at the utmost, be more than nineteen months old. Since I have had it, its size has fully doubled.

"The first run of the Giraffe is exceedingly rapid. The swiftest horse, if unaccustomed to the desert, could not come up with it unless with extreme difficulty. The Arabs accustom their coursess to hunger and to fatigue; milk generally serves them for food, and gives them power to continue their exertions during a very long run. If the Giraffe reaches a mountain, it passes the heights with rapidity: its feet, which are like those of a Goat, endow it with the dexterity of that animal; it bounds over ravines with incredible power; horses cannot, in such situations, compete with it.

The Giraffe is fond of a wooded country. The leaves of trees are its principal food. Its conformation allows of its reaching their tops. The one of which I have previously spoken as having been

killed by the Arabs measured 21 French feet in height from the ears to the hoofs. Green herbs are also very agreeable to this animal; but its structure does not admit of its feeding on them in the same manner as our domestic animals, such as the Ox and the Horse. It is obliged to straddle widely; its two fore-feet are gradually stretched widely apart from each other, and its neck being then bent into a semicircular form, the animal is thus enabled to collect the grass. But on the instant that any noise interrupts its repast, the animal raises itself with rapidity, and has recourse to immediate flight.

. "The Giraffe eats with great delicacy, and takes its food leaf by leaf, collecting them from the trees by means of its long tongue. It rejects the thorns, and in this respect differs from the Camel. As the grass on which it is now fed is cut for it, it takes the upper part only, and chews it until it perceives that the stem is too coarse for it. Great care is required for its preservation, and especially great

cleanliness.

"It is extremely fond of society and is very sensible. I have observed one of them shed tears when it no longer saw its companions or the persons who were in the habit of attending to it.

"I was so fortunate as to collect five individuals at Kordofan; but the cold weather of December, 1834, killed four of them in the desert on the route to Dongolah, my point of departure for Bebbah. Only one was preserved; this was the first specimen that I obtained, and the one of which I have already spoken. After twenty-two days in the desert, I reached Dongolah on the 6th of January, 1835.

"Unwilling to return to Cairo without being really useful to the Society, and being actually at Dongolah, I determined on resuming the pursuit of Giraffes. I remained for three months in the desert, crossing it in all directions. Arabs in whom I could confide accompanied me, and our course was through districts destitute of everything. We had to dread the Arabs of Darfour, of which country I saw the first mountain. We were successful in our researches. I obtained three Giraffes, smaller than the one I already possessed. Experience suggested to me the means of preserving them.

"Another trial was reserved for me: that of transporting the animals, by bark, from Wadi Halfa to Cairo, Alexandria, and Malta. Providence has enabled me to surmount all difficulties. The most that they suffered was at sea, during their passage, which lasted

twenty-four days, with the weather very tempestuous.

"I arrived at Malta on the 21st of November. We were there detained in quarantine for twenty-five days, after which, through the kind care of Mr. Bourchier, these valuable animals were placed in a good situation, where nothing is wanting for their comfort. With the view of preparing them for the temperature of the country to which they will eventually be removed, I have not thought it ad-

visable that they ahould be clothed. During the last week the cold has been much greater than they have hitherto experienced; but they have, thanks to the kindness of Mr. Boerchier, everything that can be desired.

"These four Giraffes, three males and one female, are so interesting and so beautiful, that I shall exert myself to the utmost to be of use to them. It is possible that they may breed; already I observe in them some tendency towards mutual attachment. They are capable of walking for six hours a day without the slightest fatigue.—G.T."

Mr. Gould, at the request of the Chairman, exhibited a specimen of the Trogon resplendens, Gould, and one of the Trog. pavonisus, Spix: and stated that he was indebted to the kindness of M. Natterer, who was present at the Meeting, for the opportunity of demonstrating, by the juxtaposition of the Birds, the correctness of the determination which he had made in regarding them as distinct Mr. Gould directed particular attention to the several characters and distinguishing marks which he had pointed out to the Society on March 10, 1835, and which had subsequently been published in the 'Proceedings,' part iii. p. 29, and again dwelt especially on the fact that in Trog. resplendens the hinder feathers of the back, which are fully 3 feet in length, hang gracefully far away beyond the tail; while in Trog. pavoninus the lengthened feathers of the back are rarely equal in length to the tail: in only one instance has M. Natterer known them, in the latter bird, to exceed the tail by so much as a quarter of an inch.

The reading was concluded of a paper "On the Anatomy of the Lamellibranchiate Conchiferous Animals, by Robert Garner, Esq., F.L.S.," a portion of which had been read at the meeting on November 24, 1835.

Founded principally on the author's individual observations, which have extended to the animals of several genera the anatomical structure of which is hitherto insufficiently known, this communication embodies also much information derived from the works of Poli, Cuvier, Bojanus, Home, M. de Blainville, and others. It is so arranged as to constitute a condensed memoir on the subject to which it is devoted, comprehending a summary of all that is yet known respecting it.

After some general remarks on the high importance of a knowledge of the structure of the animals that form those shells which have at all times attracted the attention of the curious, but to an acquaintance with which many naturalists, until of late years, have been content to limit themselves, Mr. Garner proceeds to speak of the position of the animal with respect to the shell; and thence to describe the variations in the form of the animal which occasion those appearances in the shell on which rest the primary subdivisions made by conchologists among the Lamellibranchiate Conchifera. He regards Anomia as being in some measure intermediate between this order and the Brackiopoda; and in illustration of this view describes

with some detail the structure of the animal of that genus.

Mr. Garner then adverts to the mode of growth of the shells and to their structure, and considers them in the variations in form which some of them undergo in their progress from the embryo to the adult state. He dwells also on the diversity of form assumed by the several groups of *Bivalves*, and shows in what manner these are occasioned by the form of the animal that produces the shelly coverings; referring to the foot especially as exercising in this respect a very remarkable influence.

The general review of the external form of the animal is succeeded by an account of the several systems of which it is composed. These are treated of in the following order: 1. Muscular system; 2. Nervous system; 3. Digestive system; 4. Circulating system; 5. Respiratory system; 6. Excretory system; 7. Cilia (and into this part of his subject the author enters with more than usual detail); and, 8. Reproductive system. Under each of these heads a rapid review is taken of the principal variations that occur in the order, and the illustrative examples referred to are generally numerous.

Finally, the author devotes a section of his paper to the diseases

and the parasites of the animals on which he treats.

In conclusion, Mr. Garner submits the subjoined tabular view of an

Anatomical Classification of the Lamellibranchiate Conchi-FEROUS ANIMALS.

With but one adductor muscle. Monomyaria, Lam.

Tentacles very long, not distinct from the branchia; an additional muscular system...... Anomia.

With two adductor muscles. DIMYARIA, Lam.	
Mantle without separate orifices or tubes. Foot slender, byssiferous; tentacles fixed Foot thick, rounded, with a callosity Foot compressed, securiform Foot oval below, its margin tentacular, ten-	Avicula.* Arca. Pectunculus.
tacles volute	Nucula.
angle	Trigonia.*
Foot small, byssiferous. Anterior muscle small; retractile muscles of the foot numerous; byssus large.	
Byssus divided to its base Byssus with a common corneous cen-	Mytilus.
Anus furnished with a long ligulate	Modiola.
walve	Pinna.*
muscles only; byssus rudimentary Foot large, not byssiferous	Lithodomus. Unio.
Mantle with a superior and inferior orifice; not elongated into tubes. Mantle widely open Mantle closed around the foot or byssus. Foot short and discal, byssiferous; an-	Cardium.
terior muscle small	Tridacna.* Chama.* Isocardia.*
Mantle with two produced tubes, or siphons. Branchiæ not produced into the lower tube. Mantle closed around the foot Mantle open. Tubes disunited; foot lanceolate. Foot large, rather falciform; external	Loripes.*
branchiæ shortened; mantle tenta- cular; labial tentacles large Foot small; external branchiæ short- ened; edge of the mantle simple;	
foot moderate; external branchiæ as long as the internal; tentacles	Psammobia.
large; margin of the mantle en- tire	Tellina.
tentacular	

Tubes more or less united; foot various.	
Branchiæ united medianly.	
Tubes small, partially divided; foot very long, obtuse	Cuclas
Tubes small, united to the ex-	Cyclus.
tremity; foot very long and	•
pointed	Mactra.
Tubes large, foot short and promi-	
nent behind	Venerupis.
Branchiæ disunited medianly.	•
Foot lanceolate, prominent behind;	
tubes small, united	Cytherea.
Foot securiform; tubes larger and	
more or less distinct	Venus.
Branchia produced into, or attached to, the	
lower tube; tubes always united.	
Mantle only open inferiorly for the protrusion of the foot.	
Tubes small; lips long.	
Foot small; branchiæ of each side	
united into one	Pandora.
Foot larger; branchiæ separate	Corbula.
Tubes long; lips small.	
Foot not byssiferous; tubes large and	
coriaceous	Mya.
Foot byssiferous; tubes moderate	Hiatella.
Mantle open anteriorly.	
Foot long, club-shaped; tubes short	Solen.
Foot very short, rounded.	
Two distinct adductor muscles, the an-	
terior one situated below a reflect- ed portion of the mantle uniting	
the beaks instead of a cartilage;	
tentacles large	Pholas.
Body very elongated; adductor mus-	1 /30/45.
cles united; end of the mantle with	
two calcareous pieces; tentacles	
small; no cartilage nor reflected	
portion of the mantle	Teredo.
the anatomy of the several monors marked in	

For the anatomy of the several genera marked in the above table with an (*), the author acknowledges himself indebted either to Cuvier, Poli, or M. de Blainville.

He refers occasionally to other genera, besides those enumerated, as included in the groups distinguished by the characters given above.

Mr. Garner's paper was accompanied by numerous drawings of the objects and structures described in it, which were exhibited in illustration of his communication.

February 23, 1836.

The Rev. J. Barlow in the Chair.

Mr. Gould, at the request of the Chairman, exhibited specimens of numerous Birds forming part of the Society's collection; and directed the attention of the Meeting to those which he regarded as the most interesting among them.

He stated that one of them was especially curious as exhibiting a form of *Insesserial Bird*, not safely referrible to any known family; on which account he proposed to consider it as the type of a group

to be designated

PARADOXORNIS.

Rostrum altitudine longitudinem superans, ad basin vibrissis instructum: mandibula superiore valdè compressa; culmine acuto, valdè arcuato; tomio edentulo, apicem versus valdè incurvo, ad basin producto: mandibula inferiore ad basin lata, robusta; tomio emarginato.

Nares parvæ, rotundatæ, pone rostrum sitæ.

Ale breves, rotundatæ: remigibus 4tå, 5tå, et 6tå longioribus.

Cauda mediocris, gradata.

Tarsi robusti, læves.

Pedes magni, subtus lati: digitis magnis; halluce unqueque postico maximis.

Ptilosis ampla, laxa.

The breadth of the under surfaces of the feet is so great as to indicate considerable powers of grasping.

Paradoxornis flavirostris. Par. arenaceo-brunneus, subtus pallidior; capite nuchdque rufo-brunneis; auribus partim aterrimis; facie guttureque albis nigro variis; pectore nigro.

Long. tot. 8 unc.; ale, 34; caude, 44; tarsi, 14; hallucis (ar-

cuati), 7.

Rostrum splendide aurantiaco-flavum; pedes cœrulescentes.

Hab. (verosimiliter) in Nepalia.

Mr. Gould regarded another of the Birds exhibited as the representative of a new type among the Thrushes; and characterized it as the type of the genus

ACTINODURA.

Rostrum subcompressum, subarcuatum, ad apicem subcmarginatum.

Nares basales, lineares, operculo magno tectse.

Alæ molles, breviusculæ, concavæ: remige 1 må brevissismå, 4tå
5tåque longioribus.

Cauda mollis, elongata, gradata.

Tarsi elongati.

Pedes majusculi: halluce unqueque postico longiusculis.

Ptilosis mollis, laxa.

The wings and tail in the birds of this group are transversely barred. The typical species are crested.

ACTINODUBA EGERTONI. Act. cristata; suprà nitide rufo-brunnea olivaceo tincta, subtùs pallide rufo-brunnea; crista, occipite, genisque brunnescenti-cinereis; remigibus ad basin rufis, pogoniis nigro flavoque fasciatis; secundariis nigro brunneoque fasciatis; rectricibus sordide rufo-brunneis, lineis saturatioribus transversim notatis, alboque apiculatis.

Long. tot. 84 unc.; alæ, 34; caudæ, 44; tarsi, 14; rostri, 1. Rostrum pedesque brunnei.

Hab. in Nepaliâ.

The specimen described was presented to the Society by Sir P. Grey Egerton, Bart., M.P.

The following species were also characterized by Mr. Gould:

CORVUS PRCTORALIS. Corv. niger caruleo iridescens; maculd nuchali lata fasciaque lunata pectorali albis.

Long. tot. 17 unc.; rostri, 24; alæ, 114; caudæ, 74; tarsi, 24. Rostrum pedesque nigri.

Hab. in Chinâ.

Statura Corv. Corone.

CORVUS CURVIROSTRIS. Corv. niger chalybeo-cæruleo purpureoque iridescens; maculd dorsali fascidque laid ventrali albis.

Long. tot. 17 unc.; rostri, 2\; ala, 12\; cauda, 7\; tarsi, 2\. Rostrum pedesque nigri.

Hab. in Africa Occidentali.

Nearly allied to the Corv. scapulatus, Daud., a species of Southern Africa; but smaller in all its proportions, and possessing a bill which is rather feeble and considerably curved.

PRIONITES CORULICEPS. Pri. iridescenti-olivaceo-viridis, pteromatibus secundariisque magis viridibus; caudá ad basin viridi, dein cœruled, ad apicem nigrá; capite cæruleo, fasciá frontali flavescenti-viridi, lineáque nigrá a nare per oculum auremque utrinque ductá et finem versus cæruleo submarginatá, notato.

Long. tot. 18 unc.; rostri, 17; alæ, 54; caudæ, 114; tarsi, 14.

Rostrum nigrum; pedes brunnei. Hab. in regione Tamaulipas dictâ.

The two middle tail-feathers have their shafts naked towards the end, as is usual in the genus, for the space of 2 inches; and the bird is decorated with the ordinary tufts of black feathers springing from the lower part of the throat.

PLYCTOLOPHUS PRODUCTUS. Plyct. rostro elongato; brunneus, capite nucháque pallide brunnescenti-griseis, harum dorsique plumis saturatiore marginatis; uropygio, ventre, crissoque saturate rubris; gutture pectoreque flavis, illo ad gulam rubro tincto; alarum flesurd subtùs flavd olivaceo-rufo tinctá; rectricibus ad basin aurantiaco-flavo brunneoque fasciatis; remigum pogoniis internis ad basin subtùsque sordide rufo brunneoque fasciatis.

Long. tot. 15 unc.; alæ, 10; caudæ, 6; tarsi, 14; rostri, 24.

Rostrum pallidum; pedes saturate brunnei.

mao.

The bill is exceedingly produced, the upper mandible extending

fully one half of its total length beyond the lower.

The bird belongs to that group which has been distinguished by M. Kuhl among the *Plyctolophi* under the name of *Nestor*.

A paper by Mr. Owen was read, entitled, "Descriptions of some new or rare Cephalopoda, collected by Mr. George Bennett, Corr. Memb. Z.S." The subjects referred to in it included specimens of Cranchia scabra, Leach; a small nondescript Loligo; the head and principal viscera of a Decapodous Dibranchiate Cephalopod from Port Jackson; a small nondescript species of Octopus; and a very small specimen of Argonauta hians, with its Cephalopodous inhabitant (Ocythoe Cranchii, Leach), and a large cluster of ova: all of which were exhibited, in illustration of the communication, by permission of the Curators of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, of which collection they now form part.

The specimen of Cranchia scabra was taken by Mr. George Bennett in a towing net in lat. 12° 15′ S., long. 10° 15′ W.; and was at first regarded by him as a species of Medusa: and Mr. Owen observes, that from the uncommon form which this very remarkable Cephalopod presents, one cannot feel surprised that it should have been, at the first view, referred by its captor to a Radiate family, with which the Cephalopods bear, in more than one respect, an ana-

logical relation.

As the type of its genus Mr. Owen considers the Cranch. scabra with reference to the generic characters that separate Cranchia from the neighbouring groups: from Loligo and Onychoteuthis it is distinguished by the continuity of its mantle with the dorsal parietes of the head; and from Sepioteuthis, Sepiola, and Rossia by the proportions and position of its fins. The form of the fins alone is evidently insufficient in Cephalopods for generic distinctions, as will appear from considering the variations in this respect that occur in the several species of the well-marked genus Onychoteuthis, Licht.; and also in the several species of Loligo as at present restricted, some of which, especially Lol. brevis, Blainv., make so close an approximation to Cranch. scabra in the rounded contour, as well as the terminal position, of their fins, that were it not that the exterior margin of the mantle is in all of them free on its dorsal aspect, the latter Cephalopod, notwithstanding its singular form, could not be separated generically from the Loligines on external characters alone.

As in the figures published by Férussac of the Cephalepods named Cranch. cardioptera by Péron and Cranch. minima by himself, the anterior margin of the mantle appears to be free on its dorsal aspect, similarly to that of the true Loligines, it must be doubted whether these species are correctly referred to the genus Cranchia: and the same doubt may perhaps be extended to Cranch. Bonelliana, Fér., in the description of which no mention is made of the adhesion or otherwise of the mantle to the posterior part of the head. This adhesion Mr. Owen regards as an essential character of the genus.

The specimen of Cranchia scabra on which the genus was founded by Dr. Leach, having been imperfect in some of its parts, Mr. Owen carefully describes the species anew from the perfect individual obtained by Mr. George Bennett; which is smaller than the original specimen, measuring only 1 inch 8 lines in total length to the end of the outstretched tentacle. The body is remarkable for its great flaccidity, which is owing to the very small space occupied by the viscera: these are situated at its anterior part, and not, as in Loligopeis, at the bottom of the sac. Besides this disproportion between the bulk of the viscera and the capacity of the containing sac, Cranchia has other relations with Loligopsis in the absence of the infundibular valve, which exists in all the other Decapodous Cephalopods; and in the non-articulation of the base of the siphon by a double ball and socket joint to the internal surface of the ventro-lateral parts of the mantle. In the Decapodous Cephalopods generally the funnel is articulated to the mantle, at the anterior part of its base, by two ball and socket joints, the projection being on the mantle and the socket on the funnel; both consisting of cartilage, covered with a fine synovial membrane. The projecting cartilage is of an oval form in the Cuttle-fish: but in Leligo it forms an elongated ridge; which in Onychoteuthis commences at the anterior margin of the mantle and extends one third down the sac, forming two thin lateral cartilaginous lamine placed rather towards the ventral aspect of the mantle: an elongated groove in the opposite sides of the funnel plays upon each of these ridges. In Loligopsis the sides of the funnel adhere to the corresponding cartilaginous lamine, which differ from the lateral cartilages of other Decapedous Cephalopods only by their greater length and tuberculated form. In Cranchia, as in the Octopoda, these cartilages are entirely wanting; but the ventral parietes of the base of the siphon become expanded, thin, and transparent; and adhere to and become continuous with the corresponding pasts of the mantle.

Mr. Owen regards as new the species of Loligo referred to, and describes it under the name of Lol. laticeps: four specimens of it, the largest of which measures only 1+ inch from the extremity of the mantle to the end of the outstretched tentacle, were obtained by Mr. George Bennett among the Sargasso weed, in lat. 29° N., long. 47° W. When alive they were of a fine purple colour with dark red spots. The specimens are now destitute of colour on the fins and on the under surface of the third and fourth pairs of arms, and the spots are but few on the under part of the head and mantle;

on the inner surface of the first, second, and third pairs of arms the dark pigment is disposed in broad, irregularly shaped, transverse bands, passing across between each of the pairs of suckers.

The head, as is indicated by the trivial name, is comparatively broad; and the arms which it supports are relatively longer than in the Loligines generally, the second and third pairs being nearly equal in length to the trunk. The body is subcylindrical and conical, gradually diminishing in circumference till it terminates in a point at the posterior margin of the fins, which do not extend conjoined together beyond this part. The fins are terminal and dorsal, a space of about half a line intervening between their origins anteriorly, whence their bases converge and are united at the apex of the trunk: their superior contour is an obtuse angle; their inferior margin is rounded.

In the Cephalopod described as Cranchia cardioptera, Pér., to which the species under consideration has a superficial resemblance, the terminal fins have a semicircular contour, and their origins are widely separated anteriorly; they also extend beyond the termination of the trunk: the trunk, moreover, is broader in proportion to the head, and does not diminish gradually to a point, but is rounded off at the posterior extremity. The Cranchia minima of Férussac may be at once distinguished from Lol. laticeps by the extension of the trunk beyond the small rounded fins, which gives a trilobate contour to the termination of the body.

In internal organization Lol. laticeps agrees with the other Loligines whose anatomical structure has been ascertained.

The fragments of the Decapodous Cephalopod obtained at Port Jackson are too imperfect to allow of their being satisfactorily referred generically: they may, however, have belonged to a species of Loligo or of Sepioteuthis. As in some species of both these genera, the outer lip was characterized by eight short processes, on the inner surface of which, at the extremity of each, were three or four small suckers, attached by peduncles, and having precisely the same structure as those of the eight large exterior arms. In this repetition of the structure of the external series of cephalic processes there is an evident analogy to the different series of labial processes of Nautilus. In some species, as for instance Lol. Pealii, Le Sueur, the acetabuliferous labial processes are more developed than in Mr. George Bennett's specimen. In Lol. corolliflora, Til., they have been compared by Bojanus to the internal shorter series of tentacles. of a Medusa; affording another evidence of the analogy, though remote, between the Cephalopods and the Radiata.

The two lateral processes at the termination of the rectum being, in this instance, evidently adapted to form a valve for the closure of the anus, Mr. Owen was induced to examine the corresponding structure in other species; and to conclude, from his examination, that similar appendages, although varying in form and position, perform the same office in other Decapoda. The slenderness of the anal processes in Onychoteuthis and Loligopsis being such as to preclude the possibility of their acting as mechanical guards, it is in-

ferred that they may perform the function of instruments of sensation, and convey the stimulus to contract to the muscular parts that close the outlet of the alimentary canal. In the Octopoda the asses is not similarly provided; and, indeed, it may be generally remarked that valvular or other guards are developed among the Cephalopoda only in such as have the power of propelling themselves forwards in the water.

The generative apparatus forming part of the fragments referred to, Mr. Owen examined it with some care. His most important observation relative to these organs relates to a small round flat fleshy body, attached near the anterior aperture of each of the two nidamental glands, destitute of any outlet, and of an orange colour. A single bilobed organ, of a bright orange or red colour, similarly connected with the anterior extremities of the nidamental glands, exists (as was long since pointed out by Swammerdam) in the Cuttle-fish. In Sepiola the corresponding body is single, and of a rose And there exist two such bodies in a small Cephalopod taken by Capt. Ross on the shore of Boothia, which Mr. Owen has recently described under the name of Rossia palpebrosa. Considering the bright colours which these bodies commonly present, and their structure and relations to the generative apparatus, Mr. Owen feels authorized in regarding them as analogous to the suprarenal bodies, hitherto regarded as peculiar to the Vertebrate series.

The small Octopus described by Mr. Owen was obtained by Mr. George Bennett, like the Loligo laticeps, among the Sargasso weed; which forms, as it were, a bank in the midst of the ocean, affording shelter to many marine animals of littoral genera. The condition of the generative organs would appear to indicate that the specimens brought home were not adult, and the species consequently may be assumed to attain a greater size than that of the largest individual in the collection, which measures only 14 inch from the end of the sac to the extremity of the longest arm. Of the eight arms the first, or dorsal, pair is the longest, as is the case in many species of Octopus; the second pair is nearly of the same length as the first; the third pair (which in the *Decapods* is commonly the longest) is scarcely half the length of the first; the fourth pair is nearly two thirds of the length of the first. The musculo-membranous web, which is usually extended between the bases of all the arms in the Octopi, is in this species developed to the ordinary extent between the four dorsal arms only: the webs between the second and third arms, and the third and fourth arms, on each side, are very short; that between the fourth pair is wanting. From this peculiarity Mr. Owen proposes to name the species Octopus semipalmatus.

Its anatomy generally agrees with that of Oct. vulgaris.

The remaining specimens described by Mr. Owen are the shell and animal of Argonauta hians, Lam. They were obtained in lat. 4°S., long. 17°W. The animal was alive at the time of its capture by Mr. George Bennett, but fell out of its shell when it was moved on the following morning. A mass of eggs was then exposed in the involuted portion of the shell, which increased so greatly in size after

being put into spirit that they now occupy so much of the cavity that not more than one third of the body of the parent could be forced into it.

Referring to the fact that the Cephalopeds hitherto found in the shells of each species of Argonauta have invariably presented characters as specifically distinct as those of the shells in which they were found, each species of animal having appropriated to it its own peculiar species of shell—a fact which extends not only to Arg. Argo, Arg. tuberculata, and Arg. hians, but also to an undescribed species obtained in the Indian seas by Capt. P. P. King, R.N., for which Mr. Owen proposes the name of Arg. rufa, he is disposed to believe that the shell really belongs to the animal that occurs in it. On this account he speaks of the animal in question as the Arg. hians, discarding the name of Ocythos Cranchii applied to it by Dr. Leach.

In carefully describing the specimen before him, Mr. Owen corrects some errors in the account given of the animal by its original describer, and furnishes various particulars which, from the contracted state of his individuals, were unobserved by Dr. Leach. He also adverts to the statement made by that able zoologist, that in this species all the internal organs are essentially the same as in Octopus: and remarks that Arg. hians, like Arg. Argo, recedes from the naked Octopods and approaches the Decapods in the structure of the branchial hearts, which are provided with a fleshy appendage, in the form of the appendages of the vena cava, which are shorter and thicker; and in the relative position of the lozenge-shaped inkbag, which is not buried in the substance of the liver, but lies in its anterior concavity: the inferior salivary glands are also relatively The following differences, as compared with Octopus, occur in other internal organs which adhere to the type of structure that characterizes the Octopodous tribe of the Dibranchiata: the laminated pancreatic bag is of a triangular form, and not spirally disposed; the two oviducts are devoid of the circular laminated glands which surround them in Octopus about the middle of their course; they are also disposed in four or five convolutions as they pass behind the roots of the branchia; and they terminate at a relatively greater distance from the base of the funnel.

Mr. Owen then describes various portions of the internal structure of Argonauta; and especially its brain, its principal nervous cords, and the lateral muscles, here at their minimum of development, which attain in Nautilus, as the muscles of attachment to the

shell, so enormous a size.

The eggs are in nearly the same state of development as those which have been described by Mr. Bauer and by Dr. Roget; and consequently afforded no conclusive proof as to the nature of the connexion of the animal with the shell. In one of them, from the form of the opake body contained within it, Mr. Owen for a moment entertained the idea that the nucleus of the real shell might be found: on tearing open, however, the external tissue, the contained substance turned out to be nothing more than the yelk, separated by an intervening stratum of clear fluid from the transparent mem-

into the flakes, granules, and globules of oil, of which the vitellus is usually composed: there was not a trace of any consistent parts of an embryo, nor the slightest particle of calcareous matter.

Mr. Owen concludes his communication by a tabular view of the Cephalopada, exhibiting the external and internal characters common to the entire class; those of the several orders and families comprised in it; and the names of the genera included in each family.

March 8, 1836.

William Yarrell, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. Ogilby read a paper, entitled "Observations on the opposable power of the Thumb in certain Mammals, considered as a zoological character: and on the Natural Affinities which subsist between the Bimana, Quadrumana, and Pedimana."

In the summer of 1829 it occurred to Mr. Ogilby to observe that two living individuals of Mycetes Seniculus did not use the extremities of their anterior limbs for the purpose of holding objects between the fingers and thumb, as is common among the Quadrumana; and he ascertained also, on closer examination, that the thumb, as it has generally been considered, was not in these animals opposable to the other fingers, but originated in the same line with them. Struck with the apparent singularity of the fact, he was induced to pay particular attention to all the other animals, referred by zoologists to the Quadrumanous family. to which he had access; and the continued observation of more than six years has assured him that the non-opposable character of the inner finger of the anterior extremities, which he first observed in the specimens referred to, is not confined to the genus Mycetes, but extends throughout the whole of the genera of the South American Monkeys, individuals of all of which have now been seen by him in the living state. In none of them, consequently, does a true thumb exist on the anterior limbs: and as a further consequence it follows, that the whole of them have hitherto been incorrectly referred to the Quadrumana by zoologists generally. There is a solitary exception among descriptive writers from this mode of viewing the subject, D'Azara (as Mr. Ogilby has very recently become aware) having spoken of the anterior extremities of some of the species observed by him as having five fingers originating on the same line with each other: but the statements of that original observer appear, in this respect, either to have been unnoticed by other authors or to have been passed by as undeserving of attention, so entirely were they at variance with the preconceived notions of all.

Of the eight natural genera which include all the known Monkeys of the Western Hemisphere, one, Ateles, is entirely destitute of a thumb, or has that member existing only in a rudimentary form beneath the skin. In five others, Mycetes, Lagothrix, Aotus, Pithecia, and Hapale, the anterior thumbs (using the ordinary expression for them) are placed absolutely on the same line with the other fingers, are of the same form with them, act invariably in the same direction, and are totally incapable of being opposed to them. In the two remaining genera, Cebus and Callithria, the extremities of the anterior limbs have a greater external resémblance to the hands of Man and of the Monkeys of the Old World: the internal finger is placed

No. XXXIX.—Proceedings of the Zoological Society.

further back than the general line of the other fingers, and has, on that account, when superficially noticed, the semblance of being opposed to them; but, as has been correctly observed by D'Azara with reference to Ceb. capucinus, it is less separated than in Man: it is, besides, of precisely the same slender form with the rest, is weaker than them, absolutely without power of opposition to them, and habitually acts in the same direction with them. The impression derived from contemplating the hands of the Old World Monkeys might induce the belief that the extremities of the Celiure similarly constituted: but if the knowledge that in Mycetes, Pithecia, &c., there are no opposable thumbs, lead to a close observation of the anterior extremities of the Cebi. it will be found that they do not act as hands, and cannot be considered as possessing the powers of those organs. From innumerable observations of many species of that genus Mr. Ogilby states that it was very evident, notwithstanding the fallacious appearance occasioned by the backward position of the organ, that they had not the power of opposing the thumb to the other fingers in the act of prehension: and, in fact, their principal power of prehension seems to be altogether independent of the thumb, for, generally speaking, that member was not brought into action at all, at least not simultaneously with the other fingers, but hung loosely on one side, as Mr. Ogilby has seen it do in like circumstances, in the Opossums, Phalangers, and other arboreal Manmals: when actually brought into play, however, the thumb of the Cebi invariably acted in the same direction as the other fingers. Cebus consequently agrees in the character of non-opposableness of thumb with the nearly allied genera. And in this hitherto unsuspected peculiarity zoologists obtain a far more important character by which to distinguish the Monkeys of the Old and New World than that hitherto relied on, the comparative thickness of the septum narium, or than the accessory aids afforded by the absence of cheek-pouches and callosities. Hence, according to Mr. Ogiby, as the Monkeys of America have now been ascertained to be destitute of anterior hands, they can be no longer included among the Quadrumana; and he proposes in consequence to regard them as Pedimana. He considers that in the latter series, the Monkeys of America form a group parallel to that of the Monkeys of the Old World among the Quadrumana: and viewing the Quadrumana as consisting of two primary groups, that of which Simia forms the type, and the Lemurida, he proceeds to analyse the Pedimana in order to determine whether any group analogous to the Lemurs exists in it. He finds such a group in the association of the genera Didelphis, Cheironectes, Phalangista, Petaurus, and Phascolarctos, (together with a new genus, Pseudockirus, which he has found it necessary to separate from Phalangista as at present constituted); and for this association he uses the name of Didelphida. Aware that the modifications observable in the dentary systems of these several genera have been regarded by many zoologists as betokening a difference of regimen, which has led to their being viewed as constituting distinct families; he, in the first place, states, as the

result of his observation of the habits of the numerous species of all these genera which have been, from time to time, exhibited in the Society's Gardens, that there is little or no difference, in this respect, between the Opossums and Phalangers, but that all are equally omnivorous; and then proceeds to discuss the modifications that exist among them in the number and form of the several kinds of teeth, which are not, in his estimation, so very different in reality between the Opossums and Phalangers as they appear to be at first sight. In further support of his opinion that this association of genera forms a natural family, Mr. Ogilby refers to the gradual and uninterrupted transition from the naked-prehensile-tailed Opossums of South America, through the equally naked-tailed Couscous, Balantia, of the Indian Isles, to the true Phalangers; and from these to the Petamrists directly on the one hand, and by means of the Pseudocheirs to the Koalas on the other.

On the prehensile power of the tail Mr. Ogilby particularly insists, as on a faculty possessed by the greater number of the Pedimana, and as one which is, in truth, almost confined to them: only three known genera belonging to other groups, Synetherus, Myrmecophaga, and Cercoleptes, being endowed with it. He remarks on this faculty as on one of considerable importance, affording as it does, in some degree, a compensation for the absence of opposable thumbs on the anterior limbs. Combined with the prehensile tail, in every known instance, whether among the Pedimana or in other groups, is a slowness and apparent cautiousness of motion, not observable in any of the Quadrumana except in the Nycticebi. In none of the true Quadrumana is the tail prehensile.

Another evidence of the distinctness, as two groups, of the Quadrumana and the Pedimana, is furnished by their geographical distribution. The Quadrumana are strictly confined to the limits of the Old World: the Pedimana, almost as exclusively to the New World; for Mr. Ogilby considers the continent of Australia to belong more properly to America than to Asia. The very few apparent exceptions that occur to this latter position are in the presence of some species of Phalangers in the long chain of islands that connect the south-eastern shores of Asia with the north-eastern coast of Australia; islands which may, in truth, be fairly regarded as belonging partly to the one and partly to the other, and the productions of which might consequently be expected to partake of the character of both.

Mr. Ogilby subsequently adverts to another *Pedimanous* animal, the *Aye-Aye* of Madagascar, constituting the genus *Cheiromys*; respecting the affinities of which he speaks with hesitation, because, having never had an opportunity of examining the animal itself, he is acquainted with its characters only at second-hand. He is, however, disposed to regard it as representing a third group among the *Pedimana*, to be placed in a station intermediate between the *Monkeys* of the New World and the *Didelphidæ*. With the latter he would, in fact, be disposed to associate it, were it not destitute of the marsupial character which belongs to all the other animals com-

prised in that group. In some of the *Didelphide*, the *Phalangers* and *Petaurists* especially, there is a marked approximation to that rodent form of incisor teeth which obtains in *Cheiromys*, and which has hitherto been regarded as especially attaching to it an abnormal character.

Man is the only other animal furnished with hands; and however distinct he may be as regards his moral and intellectual powers, he must, zoologically, be considered on physical grounds. By his structural characters he becomes associated with all those of which mention has previously been made in Mr. Ogilby's communication; although he unquestionably constitutes among them a peculiar group, sensibly exalted above the rest, as well as above all other Manmals.

Mr. Ogilby concludes by proposing the name of *Cheiropeds*, *Cheiropeda*, to include all the *Mammals* that are possessed of hands; and by subjoining a table of the families and genera included in this order, as he regards it. Of this table the following may be regarded

as an abstract.

Class. Mammalia. Order. Cheiropoda,

Mammals with opposable thumbs On the anterior extremities only On both anterior and posterior extremities And with anthropoid teeth,	
Monkeys of the Old World.	
abnormal teeth,	
Lemuridæ.	
On the posterior extremities only	PEDIMANA.
Monkeys of the New World.	
rodent teeth,	

Cheiromys.

abnormal teeth,

Didelphida.

March 22, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair

The following Notes by Mr. Martin on the visceral and osteological Anatomy of the *Cariama*, *Dicholophus cristatus*, Ill., were read.

"The Cariama, of the examination of which I made the following notes, was sent to the Society by its President, the Earl of Derby, in November, 1835. It was a female, and had died from the effects of

extensive visceral inflammation.

"The trachea, without making any curvature or loop, passed straight into the chest. The asophagus, immediately before its entrance, presented a gentle but evident dilatation. On carefully dissecting away the abdominal muscles, the gizzard appeared just below the apex of the sternum, lying in a vertical position, so that its defined abdominal edge seemed a continuation of the sternal apex. On each side above was a large air-cell extending along the ribs, but separated from what may be termed the thoracic air-cell; and on each side below was another, occupying the iliac region, the membrane being fixed to the pubic bones. From the gizzard a kind of fatty omentum, if the term be allowed, stretched over the intestines; this omentum, however, was only the peritoneal membrane lining the abdominal muscles, having fat disposed in a foliaceous manner between its two laminæ. Below the gizzard lay the duodenum, its loose fold sweeping round that viscus in a horseshoe form. Each lobe of the liver was very soft, and, as it were, decomposed in structure, of a rose pink colour, and glued firmly to the peritoneal cavity by a layer of coagulated lymph half an inch thick; and the abdominal cavity was filled with bloody serum_

"The gizzard was of large size, thin, but muscular, with a radiating tendinous patch on each side, of the size of half-a-crown. It was lined with a strong coriaceous membrane, of a yellowish colour, irregularly puckered. The proventriculus was lined for the extent of 2 inches above its entrance into the gizzard with a zone of thickly set

glands.

"The duodenum, on leaving the gizzard, made a sweep of 6 inches, from the right to the left, round that viscus, and then, returning suddenly upon itself, embraced in this flexure, as usual, the pancreas. The whole of the small intestines were disposed in loops of a similar nature, but of less extent. The duodenum at its commencement was a little enlarged; but not into anything like a pyloric appendix as in the Adjutant.

"The gall-bladder was of the size of a walnut; and the biliary duct,

an inch in length, entered the duodenum at its second turn, where the reflected portion returns to the gizzard. At half an inch from the biliary duct an hepatic duct entered; and near this two pancreatic ducts: but the pancreas was so disorganized that I failed in all en-

deavours to make out more.

"The total length of the small intestines was 2 feet 10 inches; of the large, 5 inches, reckoning from the base of the cæca, which were double, closely adherent to the small intestines, and 7½ inches long. The cloaca; at its entrance into which the large intestine was surrounded by a sphincter-like valve, was divided by a fold into two portions: beneath this fold entered the ureters and oviduct; and below and between the ureters was the bursa Fabricia. The upper portion of the cloaca was lined with a villous coat; but the particle were disposed in longitudinal lines; but this was not the case in the cloaca, where the villous surface was uniform. The length of the cloaca was 1 iach and 5 lines; its circumference 1½ inch.

"The gizzard was filled with undigested flesh, feathers, and peb-

bles.

"The intestines were full of pus, and their villous lining was highly

inflamed.

"In the whole of the visceral arrangement a close affinity may be observed to the Grus tribe. In the Stanley Crane (Anthropoides paradisans, Bachst.) the intestines are similarly disposed in folds or loops, and the two cæca, given off 6 inches from the anns, are 4 inches long. In the Stanley Crane, however, the muscular coat of the gizzard is thicker than in the Cariana, being in some parts an inch across, while in the latter bird it is about 4 of an inch; hence there is in this point an index of a less vegetable regimen. In the Stanley Crane, the total length of the intestines is 5 feet 3 inches. In the Cariana, it is 3 feet 54 inches.

The comparative shortness of the neck, the compactness of the chest and stoutness of the ribs, together with the abbreviated condition of the wings, appear as if out of harmony with the length of the limbs, especially of the tibia and tarsus; while the toes concluding this length of limb are short, the hinder one being situated high and

not touching the ground.

"The skull, as in the Cranes, is arched above, but rises on the vertex to a more abrupt elevation; the arch in the Stanley Crane being a regular sweep from the base of the upper mandible to the occiput. The orbits are large, and are separated by a bony septum with a central and posterior perforation and a slight superior fissure. In the Stanley Crane, the central perforation is large and continuous with the posterior; the superior fissure being also more decided. The supraorbital process of the lacrymal bone is large, prominent, and directed backwards, as it is in the Stanley Crane. There is also a large pos-

terior orbital process, forming part of the rim of the orbit; and before the os quadratum there projects forwards and downwards a process of the temporal bone, analogous, I suspect, to the zygomatic process; for the long bone stretching to the upper mandible from the os quadratum, which in the present bird is remarkably slender, cannot be called a true zygoma. Between these two processes is the depression for the temporal muscle. The nostrils are large, wide, ovoid, and open.

"In the lower jaw there is nothing remarkable. It may be observed, however, that a slit, or long foramen, marks the union of the basal to the anterior portion of the bone, instead of a simple suture.

The coronoid process is very small.

"The vertebræ are short and stout, and resemble more those of a Gallinaceous Bird than of a Crune; in fact, they differ little from those of the crested Curassow. Their number is as follows:

 Cervical
 13

 Dorsal
 7

 Sacral
 12 apparently.

 Caudal
 8

But that a rib arises on each side from it, the last or 7th dorsal vertebra is so completely consolidated to the sacrum that it cannot be distinguished from that portion of the column;—this is also the case, in the black-crested Curassow, with the last dorsal vertebra; and in the Stanley Crane, with the last two.

"The sternum differs considerably in figure from that of the Stanley Crane. For, independently of the absence of a channel in the anterior edge of the keel for the reception of the trachea, the keel is neither so deep, nor is its anterior apex even in contact with the point of the os furcatum, (there being a firm consolidation in the Stanley Crane,) while its posterior edge is narrow and prolonged as in Gallinaceous Birds; whereas in the Stanley Crane it is broad and squared. The total length of the sternum is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches: the greatest depth of the keel $1\frac{1}{2}$. The keel does not arise abruptly from the body of the sternum, but the latter merges gradually into it.

"The os furcatum is very slender and depressed towards the coracoid bones; its figure is triangular, and the apex does not reach the keel of the sternum by nearly half an inch. The Cariama is a bird of feelble powers of flight, very different from the Crane in this respect, and exhibiting a corresponding modification of the osseous parts con-

pected with aerial progression.

"The ribs, seven in number on each side, are short and strong; the first two are false: in the Stanley Crane I can only find one false rib on each side; while all the rest are long, somewhat slender, and extend nearly 2 inches beyond the posterior margin of the sternum: whereas in the Cariama, the posterior sternal apex extends beyond

the ribs, which here make a very obtuse angle at their junction with the cartilages, or rather bones of sternal attachment.

"The clavicles offer nothing remarkable.

".The bones of the wings are short; the fore arm and humerus being of equal length,—44 inches: the hand consists of the usual bones

in Birds, and is about 31 inches in length.

"The femur, as in the Crane, is short and strong, measuring 34 inches. The tibia is slender, measuring 84 inches in length; the projecting crista before its upper articulating surface is very bold: as in the Crane, there is a large internal plate and an external pointed process; with a deep hollow between them, occupying the front of the upper end of the tibia. The fibula is, as usual, a slender stylet, and 3 inches long. The tarsus is 64 inches long, of a squared form towards its upper extremity, with an anterior and posterior groove very strongly marked, and a slighter groove on each side. The accessory or little metatarsal bone, at the base of the hind toe, is very small, and is situated about an inch from the lower extremity of the tarsus. The toes are short and stout, but consist of the usual number of phalanges.

Though the Cariama, in its osseous structure, exhibits but little resemblance to the Birds of the Raptorial order, it approaches that order very remarkably in the structure of the eye, which is surrounded by a firm consolidated osseous ring. This ring departs materially in its formation from what obtains among the Grallatores generally, where it is imbricated and slight, and indeed scarcely merits the

name of osseous.

"The choroid, the *iris*, and the lens present nothing remarkable. The ciliary processes are 102 in number, and about the 12th of an inch in length. The marsupium nigrum is strong, large in proportion to the eye, and much elevated."

In illustration of Mr. Martin's Notes, the mounted skeleton of the Cariama was exhibited; as were also preparations of several of the

viscera.

The following Notes by Mr. Martin, of the anatomy of a specimen of Buffon's Touraco, Corythaix Buffonii, Vaill., were subsequently read.

"The death of a specimen of Buffon's Touraco in the Gardens of the Society, has enabled me to investigate its visceral anatomy, and to compare the details afforded by that species, with those given by Mr. Owen respecting the Corythaix porphyreolopha. The individual in question was a female of the Cor. Buffonii. In the total length of the head, neck and body, exclusive of the tail-feathers, it measured 8; inches.

"On opening the abdomen, I found the viscera thus arranged. Below the edge of the sternum, (which is a very short bone, its keel being only 14 inch long,) appeared the two lobes of the liver, (highly

tuberculated): on the left side was the gizzard; and on the right, the first portion of the duodenum with the spleen apparent. On turning back the stomach, there appeared, dorsad, the coil of intestines.

"Beginning with the asophagus, I found it a wide dilatable simple tube, puckered longitudinally within, but these foldings disappeared on dilatation; lying compressed in situ its breadth was rather more than + an inch. Without any previous dilatation or crop, it entered the proventriculus; its boundary line being a sphincter-like thickening. The whole of the proventriculus was covered internally with small thickly set glands, of a flattened figure; and its length from the termination of the asophagus to the gizzard was + of an inch.

"The tongue was tipped with a sharp flat horny point; but I could find no bristles at its apex, as in the Toucans, and as was seen by Mr. Owen in the Corythaix porphyreolopha. Its base was covered with retroverted papillæ, which occurred again posterior to the rima glottidis. The pharynx, or opening into the gullet, was beset with numerous glands, the mouths of which were very visible. The trachea was a straight tube; but soon after commencing it gradually contracting again, and again dilating as it dipped into the chest. As this peculiarity is not noticed by Mr. Owen in the species he dissected, I conclude that it does not exist in it. The sterno-tracheal muscles consisted of a single pair.

"The liver consisted of two lobes as usual, and beneath the right lay the gall-bladder, of an oblong figure, which I found empty. Its duct, 2 inches in length, entered the duodenum at the first angle, and beneath the body of the pancreas, accompanied by an hepatic duct

which entered with it.

"The pancreas was small, and consisted of a lobulated portion lying on the angle of the duodenum above mentioned, and giving off a narrow slip along the first portion of the duodenum to which it was closely attached. I could trace two small ducts from it entering near the bile-ducts. The distance of this angle from the gizzard was about 1½ inch. I found the spleen adhering to the gizzard, and between this and the right lobe of the liver. Its figure was oval, its size that of a small nutmeg, its structure soft and evidently disorganized.

"The heart presented nothing remarkable; it was subacute and 14

inch long.

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"The muscular parietes of the gizzard were thin; but this viscus was lined by a leathery membrane of a whitish colour: its length was 1; inch; its diameter when lying compressed as usual 1;. It contained a little undigested vegetable matter.

"The duodenum, beginning small from a short pyloric canal, as noticed by Mr. Owen, suddenly dilated to 4ths of an inch in diameter; the pyloric canal was corrugated internally, these corruga-

tions verging to a sphincter.

"The small intestines were 114 inches in length, terminating in a

globular pouch or excum, not unlike the rudimentary excum found in some land Tortoises. From this pouch to the anus the distance was 5 inches. The intestinal canal was full of purulent matter, and its mucous coat was highly inflamed. I found no worms, though I looked carefully for them, opening nearly the whole of the alimentary canal. "The oviduct and the ureters terminated in the cloaca as usual.

The ovary was nearly 4 of an inch long. The kidneys were as usual. "The eyes approximated closely in structure to those of the Parrot The sclerotic coat had a narrow ring of ossification composed of eleven plates, six of which were disposed in an imbricated manner. the five at the lower and posterior part being only in juxtaposition. Of these plates, however, the three superior alone could be termed fairly osseous. The cornea was small in diameter and not very convex. The optic nerve entered the infero-posterior portion of the sclerotic, the retina springing from a tubercle under and around the marsupium. which was very small. The vitreous humour and lens were as usual. The membrana aquatica, as it is termed, was very visible. The citiary processes, the 12th of an inch long, were 96 in number. was dark; the iris lake colour, and its sphincter fibres distinct; the ciliary ligament broad; the pigmentum nigrum dark brown and in large quantity. Many fibrils of the 3rd, 4th, and 5th pairs of nerves pierced the sclerotic."

Mr. Bennett directed the attention of the Meeting to an interesting series of the Indian Antelope, Antilope Cervicapra, Pall., now at the Society's Gardens. It consists of four individuals: an adult and aged male, brought by Col. Sykes from Bombay, and presented by him to the Society nearly five years ago; a younger, yet adult, male, which was presented, in an immature condition, about two years since; an immature male, lately arrived in the Menagerie, and in about the same state of development as that in which the last-mentioned individual was when it was originally presented; and an emasculated individual of full growth. In the older of these Antelopes the rich deep colour of the body generally is so intense as almost to approach to black, and the horns are strong and fully developed: the possession of horns and the depth of colouring, which are peculiar to the male sex, are exhibited in it at their maximum. The second individual approximates nearly to it in the degree in which these secondary sexual characters are developed. In the third, the youngest of the series, there exist the horns characteristic of the male, but these organs are yet of small growth, are only beginning to be annulated at their base, and are commencing their first spiral turn; its colour, as is very generally the case among the young of animals that in adult age are differently coloured in the sexes, is that of the female, which in this instance is a dull fawn with a pale stripe along the side: it has, consequently, in these two striking particulars, full evidence of immaturity. The emasculated individual was probably, at the period when

that accident or operation occurred which prevented the development of its sexual characters, at nearly the same age as the one last adverted to: it has since continued to increase in bulk, and it even exceeds in size, as often happens in castrated animals, the perfect adult male of the same species: but the secondary sexual characters of the male have not been developed in it; it retains the dull fawn colour of immaturity, and its horns have not acquired the strength, the annulation, or the spiral turns which belong to those of the adult and perfect male. One of the horns has been broken off; perhaps the more readily from some weakness in its structure, consequent on its unimportance to an animal so degenerated: the other retains, at a short distance from its normally formed tip, a few rings, but beyond these the surface has become smooth, the substance remains weak and comparatively small, and the direction, instead of being in a succession of spiral turns, is in a single sweep, passing backwards above the base of the ear and then descending along the curve of the neck : it has, though weaker, much of the character of the horns of the African race of Sheep. The general appearance of the animal is also sheeplike and tame.

Mr. Bennett proceeded to remark that these animals, although curious and interesting on account of the variations exhibited by them, in accordance with their several conditions, in these acknowledged secondary sexual characters, colour and horns, were vet more interesting when considered with reference to the state of another organ, the use of which has long remained a problem to zoologists, but which, it appeared to him, must be referred to sexual relations; he alluded now to the lacrymal sinus. Referring to its structure as to that of a sac, opening externally by a lengthened slit, but perfectly closed within, he remarked, that that organ could not possibly be in any degree connected with the functions of respiration; there being no aperture through it for the passage of air. Its inner surface is covered by a smooth skin, with a few scattered and very short bristles, and is defended by a dark-coloured and copious secretion of ceruminous matter, which has a slight urinous or sexual odour. He did not feel himself competent, he stated, to explain the precise manner in which this organ is available for sexual purposes; yet he felt convinced that such is its use, from the consideration of its relative development in the several Indian Antelopes of the Society's Menagerie.

In the more aged of these individuals, as indeed in the adult Indian Antelope generally, the large cutaneous follicle beneath the eye known as the lacrymal sinus, is so prominent as to form a most striking feature in the animal's physiognomy: it never appears as a simple slit, its thickened edges pouting so widely as to be at all times partially everted. When the animal is excited, and it is constantly highly excitable, the eversion of the bag becomes complete, and its thick lips being thrown widely back, the intervening space is actually forced

forwards so as to form a projection instead of a hollow: the animal is, on such occasions, delighted to thrust repeatedly the naked lining of the sac against any substance that is offered to him, which soon becomes loaded with the odour that has been referred to as belonging to the secretion. In the second individual, although it is perfectly mature, the protrusion of the inner surface of the sac is not quite to so great an extent as in the more aged male; and the less thickened edges of the sinus allow of a nearer approximation to its closure in the unexcited state of the animal. The youngest male has the lips of the sinus small and closely applied to each other, so as to hide completely the whole of the internal lining of the sac, and to exhibit, externally, a mere fissure: in it the lips are but slightly moved when the animal is interested. The emasculated individual, notwithstanding its full growth, has its suborbital sinus nearly in the same condition as that of the immature male: it is merely a slight fissure, the edges of which are closely applied to each other; and in it those edges do not appear to be at all moved, the animal being generally careless and inanimate. It would consequently seem that the same cause which induced the retention, by this individual, of its immature colours, and which arrested the perfect growth of its horns, was adequate also for the checking of the development of the suborbital sinuses. Those organs, therefore, would appear to be dependent on sexual perfection; and consequently to be, in some manner yet to be ascertained, subservient to sexual purposes, with the capacity for which they are evidently, in the phases of their development, essentially connected.

Mr. Owen, who had conceived it possible that the secretion of these glands, when rubbed upon projecting bodies, might serve to direct individuals of the same species to each other, remarked that he had endeavoured to test the probability of this supposition by preparing a tabular view of the relations between the habits and habitats of the several species of Antelopes, and their suborbital, maxillary, post-auditory, and inguinal glands; in order to be able to compare the presence and degrees of development of these glands with the gregarious and other habits of the Antelope tribe. He stated, however, that it was evident from this table, that there is no relation between the gregarious habits of the Antelopes which frequent the plains, and the presence of the suborbital and maxiliary sinuses; since these, besides being altogether wanting in some of the gregarious species, are present in many of the solitary frequenters of rocky mountainous districts. The supposition, therefore, that the secretion may serve, when left on shrubs or stones, to direct a straggler to the general herd, falls to the ground.

Mr. Owen's Table is as follows:

Suborbital Antilope Sumatrensis. Hilly forests; habits of the and maxil-Goat. lary sinuses. Cervicapra. Open plains of India; gregarious. quadriscopa. Senegal. Suborbital simelampus. Open plains of Caffraria; flocks nuses large. of six or eight. ? Forfex. Africa. ? adenota. Africa. ? quadricornis. picta. Dense forests of India scoparia. Open plains of S. Africa; subgregarious. Tragulus. Stony plains and valleys of S. Africa: in pairs. melanotis. Plains, hides in underwood; in pairs. Dorcas. Borders of the desert; gregarious. Kevella. Stony plains, Senegal; gregarious. subgutturosa. Plains, Central Asia; grega-Bennettii. Rocky hills of Deccan; not gregarious. Arabica. Stony hills of Arabia. Sæmmeringii. Hills in Abyssinia; not gregarious. Euchore. Dry plains of S. Africa; gregarious. pygarga. Plains, S. Africa; gregarious. Mhorr. Deserts of Morocco. Dama. ruficollis. Deserts of Nubia; gregarious. Antilope Colus. Vicinity of lakes; gregarious, migrasmall. tory. gutturosa. Arid deserts, Asia; periodically gregarious. Suborbital Antilope Saltiana. Mountainous districts, Abyssinia; sinuses. in pairs. Mountains of the Cape: like Oreotragus. No inguinal pores. the Chamois. Hills of Nepaul; not gregarious. Gazella. Senegal. Mountains and deserts, Tripoli; Suborbital Antilope Bubalis. glands. gregarious. Plains of S. Africa; gregarious. Caama. S. Africa. Gnu. Karroos of S. Africa; gregarious. taurina s. Gorgon. S. Africa; gregarious. Maxillary Antilope silvicultrix. Thickets and underwood, Africa. mergens. Forests and underwood, S. Africa; sinuses. inguinai pores in pairs. Grimmia. Guinea. Burchellii. platous. Bushes, S. Africa; in pairs. perpusilla. Maxwellii. pygmæa.

Woods and banks of rivers,

Antilope Strepsiceros.

No suborbital,

Caffraria; subgregarious. or maxillary sinuses. sylvatica. Woods, Caffraria; in pairs. scripta. Koba. Senegal. inguinal pores. Kob. Senegal. Eleotragus. Reedy banks, Cape; subgregarious. redunea. Goree. Capreolus. Underwood, S. Africa; subgregarious. Landiana. Underwood, S. Africa; subgregarious. (Post-auditory Antilope Rupicapra. Mountains, Europe; subgregasinuses.) rious. No suborbital, Antilope Addax. Deserts, N. Africa; in pairs. or maxillary Leucoryx. Acacia groves, N. Africa; gregarious. sinuses. Oryx. Woods and plains, S. Africa; sub-No inguinal pores. gregarious. leucophæa. Open plains, S. Africa; subgregarious. barbata. Open plains, S. Africa; in equina. Plains, S. Africa; in pairs. ellipsiprymnus. S. Africa. Open plains, S. Africa; in pairs. Oreas. Open plains, S. Africa; gregarious. Deserts, Cape; gregarious. Canna. Goral. Elevated plains, Himalaya; gregarious.

Mr. Ogilby remarked, with reference to this subject, that he had had opportunities of observing, at the Surrey Zoological Gardens, a female of the *Indian Antelope*, in which, when he first saw her, the lacrymal sinus was in a state of quiescence: but when he observed her again, a month afterwards, and probably in improved condition, that organ was in a state as excitable as it is in the old male of the Society's Gardens.

He added, as a general remark, which, however, he stated was not universal, that in intertropical animals the lacrymal sinus is larger than in more northern species, and in those whose range is limited to mountainous districts.

He also described the lacrymal sinus of a species of Gazelle, which he had observed after death: it consisted of a gland furnished with six excretory ducts placed nearly in a circle, and with one central duct: from the orifices of these ducts, when squeezed, there issued out strings of a dense ceruminous matter.

Mr. Bennett stated in conclusion, that since making his observations on the *Indian Antelope*, which had led him to form the opinion he had advanced with respect to the use of the lacrymal sinus, he had received from Mr. Hodgson of Nepal, a Corresponding Mensber of the Society, a letter in which, among other subjects, some remarks are made on this organ as it exists in the Thar Antelope, and in the Cervus Aristotelis: in the former of those animals, Mr. Hodgson's observations prove that during the breeding-season the lacrymal sinus is in a high state of activity. Mr. Hodgson's letter, which is dated Nepal, June 18, 1835, refers also to other glands in some other Antelopes, as will be seen by the following extract.

"The Chiru Antelope has exceedingly large inguinal sacs, which hang by a long narrow neck from the loins. The longitudinal quasi maxillary gland of the Cambin Otan I doubt the existence of, and

believe its 'suborbital sinus' to be similar to that of Thar.

"The latter differs essentially from that organ in any Deer or Antelope I have seen; being furnished with a huge gland, filling the whole cavity or depression on the scull, and leaving the cuticular fold void of hollowness: it is filled up, like the bony depression, by the gland; whereas the gland of this sinus, in most Deer and Antelopes, is a tiny thing, and a dubious one. As to any Cervine or Antilopine animal breathing through the suborbital sinus, it cannot be, unless they can breathe through bone and skin! If you pass a fine probe down the lacrymal duct, you see the probe through the bottom of the osseous depression holding the cuticular fold called the suborbital sinus. But, however thin the plate of bone at the bottom of the former, it is there, without breach of continuity; and the cuticular portion of the apparatus has a continuous course throughout, leaving no access to the inside of the head. I am watching closely a live specimen of Cervus Aristotelis, to discover, if I can, the use of this organ. In a recently killed male of this species, I passed a pipe into the nose, up to the site of the suborbital sinus, and tried, in vain, for half an hour, with the aid of a dozen men's lungs, to inflate the sinus. Not a particle of air would pass; nor could I cause the sinus to unfold itself, as the live animal unfolds it, by means of a set of muscles disposed crosswise round the rim of it. In dissecting the sinus, I found only a feeble trace of a gland; so also, in the Muntjac.

"But in the Thar, the gland is conspicuous, being a huge lump of flesh, bigger than, and like in shape to, the yolk of an egg. The live Thar, too, in the spring especially, pours out a continuous stream of thin viscid matter from the sinus; not so in any Deer. The Thar's gland seems to me connected with the generative organs: and I take its profuse secretion to be a means of relieving the animal (when it has no mate particularly) from the extraordinary excitement to which it is liable in the courting-season. I have witnessed that excitement, and have been amazed at its fearful extent, topical and general, for

six weeks and more.

"The Chiru's labial sacs, or intermaxillary pouches, are, most clearly, accessory nostrils, designed to assist breathing at speed.

They spread with the dilatation of the true nostril, and contract with its contraction. This species has but five molar teeth on each side of either jaw."—B. H. H.

April 12, 1836.

William Yarrell, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. Bennett directed the attention of the Meeting to a living specimen of the brush-tailed Kangaroo, Macropus penicillatus, Gray, which had recently been added to the Menagerie; having been presented to the Society by Captain Deloitte, Corr. Memb. Z. S. He remarked particularly on the peculiarity of its actions, as compared with those of the typical Kangaroos; and especially on the ease with which it vaults from the ground to any slight ledge, on which it remains perched, as it were, with its tail extended behind it: the tail, in fact, appearing to be in no respect aiding in the progression of the animal.

Referring to some observations which he had made on the exhibition of a skin of the same species, at the Meeting of the Society on January 13, 1835, (Proceedings, part iii. p. 1,) he stated it to be his intention to reduce into order his various remarks on the subject, and to accompany them by a figure of the animal taken from the

living specimen.

Mr. Owen read the following notes of the morbid appearances observed in the dissection of the specimen of the Chimpanzee, Simia Troglodytes, Linn., which lately died at the Gardens; and respecting the habits and faculties of which some observations by Mr. Broderip were read at the Meeting of the Society on October 27, 1835. (Pro-

ceedings, part iii. p. 160.)

"Adhesions of the abdominal viscera to the parietes of the cavity existed in many parts, but more especially of the ascending colon and cæcum on the right side. On separating these adhesions a purulent cavity was exposed, with which the ileum, near its termination, communicated by an ulcerated aperture about half an inch in diameter. An abscess also existed between the lower end of the cæcum and the peritoneum, and the whole of the fundus of the ececum was destroyed by ulceration, together with part of the vermiform process; the remainder of which was much contracted and shrivelled, and was found adhering to the sound part of the cæcum. The efficiency of the adhesive process in repairing, or at least preventing, the immediate evil consequences of a solution of continuity in the intestinal parietes, was remarkably exemplified in this instance; for notwithstanding the extent to which this had taken place, not a particle of the alimentary matters had escaped into the general cavity of the abdomen, nor was the mischief suspected until the adhesions were separated.

"On laying open the ileum it appeared that the original seat of the ulcer had been a cluster of the aggregated intestinal glands:

No. XL.—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

similar patches in the immediate neighbourhood were in a state of ulceration; and others were enlarged, or more than usually conspicuous, as they were situated farther from the seat of the disease. In the commencement of the colon, the solitary glands presented a state of enlargement and ulceration, and here and there an inordinate vascularity; but in the general track of the intestinal canal traces of recent or active inflammation were very few. dition of the mucous membrane of the intestines closely resembled that which is so generally observed in phthisical subjects; here, however, the strumous matter was not developed in the lungs, but was confined to the mesenteric glands and spleen. mesenteric glands were more or less enlarged by a deposition of caseous matter: two, which are usually found adhering to the termination of the *ileum*, were even in a state of suppuration and ulceration, so that the parietes of the gut may have been attacked by the ulcerative process on both sides,—from without by that commencing in the mesenteric glands,—from within by that of the glandulæ aggregatæ: it was most probably, however, progressive from the latter point.

"The spleen was greatly enlarged, measuring 5 inches long and 4 broad, with numerous small scattered tubercles, none exceeding half an inch in diameter. Its substance was firm, but so disorganized as to enable it to fulfil in a very slight degree the functions of a

reservoir of venous or portal blood.

"The liver was enlarged about one third beyond its usual size, and was of a pale colour; but upon a close inspection it presented no other morbid appearance than a congested state of the portal veins: a condition frequently associated with strumous viscera, and which was very well marked in this case, and perhaps dependent on the diseased state of the spleen. The gall-bladder contained thick but healthy-coloured bile.

"The stomach seemed free from disease; but had a large perforation, the margins of whch showed that it had resulted from the

post-mortem action of the gastric secretion.

"The pancreas was healthy.

"In the chest there were no adhesions. The heart was healthy. The lungs were somewhat firmer than usual, and the air-passages contained an unusual quantity of fluid secretion, in some parts stained with blood; but none of the air-cells had been obliterated by either inflammatory action or strumous deposition: there had been recent subacute inflammation of the mucous lining of the air-passages, but nothing more.

"No Entozoa were met with in the dissection; although the ali-

mentary canal was carefully searched for them.

"The brain and its membranes were healthy.

"With respect to the organization of the Chimpanzee, so far as the dissection was carried, the parts corresponded with the descriptions given by Tyson in his 'Anatomy of a Pygmie'; and by Dr. Traill in the 'Wernerian Transactions,' vol. iii.

"The tunica vaginalis testis, which communicates with the ab-

domen in the Simia Satyrus, was here a completely closed or shut sac, as in the human subject."

The following "Descriptions of some Species of Shells apparently not hitherto recorded: by W. J. Broderip, Esq., V.P.Z.S., F.R.S., &c." were read. The reading of the communication was accompanied by the exhibition of specimens of the several species referred to in it.

Spondylus albidus. Spond. testá albidá, lineis elevatis frequentissimis exasperatis, a cardine radiantibus, horridá: long. 14, lat. 14 poll.

Hab.?

This delicate shell is rough like a file, and has indeed somewhat the aspect of a *Lima*.

VOLUTA BECKII. Vol. testă ovato-fusiformi, fulvă lineis subangulatis spadiceis inscriptă, transversim striată, striis minutis subundulatis; anfractibus tuberculato-subplicatis, ultimo longissimo; spiră mediocri; columellă triplicată; apertură ovatoelongată: long. 84, lat. 4 poll.

Hab.?

Mus. Saul, Brod.

The body whorl of this fine species, which I have named after that distinguished conchologist Dr. Beck, is upwards of 6 inches in

length.

I have long had a bleached specimen in my collection, but the description above given is taken from one with more colour and in better condition, though not good, in the cabinet of Miss Saul. My specimen is somewhat shorter. There is a very large individual lately added to the British Museum.

VOLUTA CONCINNA. Vol. testá mitriformi, transversim subtilissimè striatá, striis elevatis, fulvá lineis longitudinalibus spadiceis, subirregularibus, frequentissimis inscriptá; anfractibus
plicatis, plicis subtubercularibus, anfractu basali elongato,
fasciis duabus distantibus pallidioribus obscuris cincto; spirá
mediocri, valdè plicatá; columellá 4-plicatá; aperturá angustiore: long. 3½, lat. 1½ poll.

Hab.?

Mus. Brod.

This is an elegant shell, approaching a little in some of its characters to Vol. Lyriformis, but differing widely from it in others. Of the total length of Vol. concinna two inches and a half are occupied by the body whorl, and it is only in the transversely striated plications of the spire, which are however more distant than those of the spire of Vol. Lyriformis, that the resemblance occurs, for the spire of Vol. concinna is very short in proportion to its body whorl, while the opposite character is strongly developed in Vol. Lyriformis. In this respect it comes nearer to Vol. gracilis, as well as in the form

and colour of the aperture and the plaits on the pillar. The aperture of Vol. concinna is fulvous, and the inner lip, where the mantle has extended, is of the same colour, with a few traces of the longitudinal lineations not yet obliterated.

My specimen is the only one I have seen.

Conus Adamsonii. Con. testá solida, subcylindracea, glabra, albidá roseo pallido spadiceoque tessellata; anfractu basali supernè et ad basin sulcato, sulcis elevatis latis (interstitiis superiorum subpunctatis), fasciis tribus subæquidistantibus spadioeo-maculatis ornato; spira brevi, anfractibus subconoavis, transversim striatis. Hab.?

Mus. Adamson.

This species is nearly as solid and ponderous as Con. Stercus Muscarum, which it resembles somewhat in shape, though Con. Adamsonii is longer in proportion. It has also points which remind the observer of Con. bullatus; but is more nearly allied to Con. discrepans, Conch. Illustr. f. 28.

Purpura Gravesii. Purp. testa sordide alba, muricata, striis validis, elevatis, imbricato-squamulosis rugosa; anfractibus longitudinaliter subplicatis, angulosis, angulis laminatis, serratis, retroversis; anfractu basali stria validiore, submediali, elevata cincto: long. 1%, lat. 1% poll.

Hab. in mari Mediterraneo.

Mus. Norris, Brod.

This shell was brought up on the fluke of the anchor of H.M.S. Mastiff, surveying-vessel, under the command of Lieut. Graves (who has already enriched this department of natural history by his activity in collecting, whenever the pressure of his professional duties would allow him to do so,) from a muddy bottom, and a depth of ten fathoms, off Napoli di Romania. The shell varies much, and other specimens have not the carinations, &c. nearly so much developed.

There is a figure of this species in Mr. Sowerby's 'Conchological

Illustrations,' under the name of Murex cariniferus.

BULINUS CRICHTONI. Bul. testá fusiformi, longitudinaliter costatá et corrugatá, costis rugisque validis, subalbidá maculis spadiceis notatá; labio rosaceo-violaceo, labro pallidiore, expanso, subreflexo: long. 3 (circiter), lat. 14 poll.

Hab. ad Ambo juxta Huanuco Peruvise.

Mus. Brod.

This curious shell, which at first sight reminds the observer of Bulinus Labeo, Brod., (Zool. Journ., vol. iv. p. 222,) brought home by Lieut. Maw, R.N., and presented by him to the Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen*, differs strongly from it, as will be seen by a reference to the figure in the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from whose Museum it has been stolen at the 'Zoological Society of London, from the 'Zoological Society of

* This certainly was, and I believe (wherever it may be) is, the only spesimen in Europe. It was in remarkably fine condition.

gical Journal' which is very accurate, excepting that the longitudinal lines in the engraving are rather too strongly expressed. The apex of the shell under description, the only specimem I ever saw, is broken, and its actual length is 2 inches and ‡. It will be observed that the specimen is notched at the base, but I suspect that this arises from accidental distortion.

The shell is named after my friend Sir Alexander Crichton, to whose liberality I am indebted for this and the following species.

Bulinus inflatus. Bul. testá fragili, subalbidá vel flavá, fusco vel castaneo maculatá, anfractu basali castaneo fasciatá, fasciis numerosis: long. 170, lat. 170 poll.

Hab. juxta Ambo Peruviæ,

This pretty shell somewhat approaches *Bul. guttatus*, brought home by Mr. Cuming. The species varies very much.

BULINUS PUSIO. Bul. testá valde ventricosá, ovato-globosá, corned, diaphaná, longitudinaliter striatá; labri margine albo; umbilica mediocri: long. 14, lat. 14, poll.

Hab. in maris Mediterranei insulis Græcis (Syra).

This species was found in the island of Syra by Lieut. Graves, during his late survey in H.M.S. Mastiff. There were but two specimens; in one the *umbilicus* is very visible: in the other it is nearly closed.

April 26, 1836.

William Yarrell, Esq., in the Chair.

A Note was read, addressed to the Secretary by J. B. Harvey, Esq., Corr. Memb. Z.S., and dated Teignmouth, April 24, 1836. It referred to a series of specimens of Rostellaria Pes Pelicani, Lam., presented by the writer to the Society, and which he regards as interesting on account of the evidence afforded by them of the curious fact, that in the shells of this species the outer lip is most thickened at a time antecedent to the full development of the shell; absorption of the incrassated part of the lip taking place as the animal advances in age. "This series," Mr. Harvey remarks, "clearly shows that the shell, when not more than one half or three quarters grown, is much thicker than when all the processes are perfected: and that, when each process has a groove or channel in it, the shell is quite thin, and has arrived at its full period of growth."

The shells referred to in Mr. Harvey's letter were exhibited.

Characters were read of the *Vespertilionidæ* observed in the central region of Nepâl; being a communication transmitted to the Society by B. H. Hodgson, Esq., Corr. Memb. Z.S. They have already been published in the 'Journal of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta'.

The following are the species characterized:

Rhinolophus armiger, Hodgs.
Rhin. tragatus, Ej.
Pteropus leucocephalus, Ej.
Pter. pyrivorus, Ej.
Vespertilio formosa, Ej.
Vesp. fuliginosa, Ej.
Vesp. labiata, Ej.

Mr. Hodgson's characters of these species are accompanied by remarks on the habits of the several genera of *Bats* which are represented by them in the district in which they occur.

A second communication by Mr. Hodgson was read, which has also been published in the 'Journal of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta'. It was entitled "Specific Name and Character of a New Species of Cervus, discovered by Mr. Hodgson in 1825, and indicated in his Catalogue by the local name of Báhraiya."

The animal to which this paper refers is regarded by Mr. Hodgson as constituting an important link in the chain of connexion between the *Deer* of the *Rusan* and of the *Elaphine* groups: possessing in the numerous snags into which the summit of its horns are divided one of the principal characteristics of the latter group; but agreeing

with the former in the absence of any median process on the stem of the horn, and in the singleness of the basal antler. In stature and aspect the species is intermediate between Cervus Hippelaphus, Cuv., and Cerv. Elaphus, Linn. Its general resemblance to the latter is indicated in the trivial name assigned to it by Mr. Hodgson, that of Cerv. Elaphoides.

It is referred to in his 'Catalogue of the Mammalia of Nepâl' (Proceedings, part ii. p. 99.) under the name of Cerv. Bahraiya, Hodgs.

Specimens were exhibited of numerous species of British Fishes. forming part of the collection of Mr. Yarrell. They consisted of dried preparations of rather more than one half of the skin of each individual: a mode of preservation peculiarly adapted, as Mr. Yarrell remarked, for travellers over land; specimens so prepared occupying but little space, and being consequently as portable as dried plants. An incision is made in the first instance round one side of the fish, at a short distance from the dorsal and anal fins, and the whole of the viscera and flesh are removed, so as to leave only the skin of the other side with the vertical fins attached to it, and with rather more than one half of the head: the loose edge of skin left from the side in which the incision has been made, is then fastened by means of pins to a piece of board, so as to display the entire side of the fish which it is intended to preserve, and it is then hung up to dry in an airy but shady situation. The more rapidly the drying is completed, the more effectually will the colours be preserved. As soon as the skin is dried it is varnished; and the loose edge of the skin on that side from whence the operation of removing the flesh has been effected is trimmed off with a pair of scissors, as being no longer useful. The preparation is then completed, and consists of the entire skin of one side of the fish, of the vertical fins, and of rather more than one half of the head, the latter being important for the preservation of the vomer, so as to show the absence or presence of teeth on that bone, and their form. All the essential characters of the fish are consequently preserved, if care be taken that the skin be so attached to the board on which it is dried, as to retain its original dimensions of length and depth: the due thickness of the fish may be secured in the preparation, if it be considered desirable, by inserting beneath the skin, when extending it on the board, a sufficient quantity of prepared horse-hair.

After explaining the mode which he had adopted in the preparation of the specimens exhibited, Mr. Yarrell made various remarks on those which he regarded as the most interesting among them; and particularly on a series of *Trout* and *Charr* from different localities, and varying in colour according to situation, to season, and

also, in some instances, to food.

He then directed the attention of the Meeting to the specimens of the British species of *Rays* which formed part of the collection, and pointed out particularly the difference, as regards surface, which obtains in the sexes of many of these fishes; the skin of the female being, in every instance, comparatively smooth. He added also, by reference to these specimens, and to specimens of the jaws exhibited for that purpose, an explanation of the differences which exist, in adult individuals, in the teeth of the sexes respectively; those of the male becoming exceedingly lengthened and pointed, while in the female they retain very nearly their original flattened surface: the form of the teeth, equally with the armsture of the surface, constituting in these fishes a secondary sexual character, although both the one and the other have repeatedly, but erroneously, been considered as adapted for the establishing of specific distinctions.

May 10, 1836.

The Rev. J. Barlow in the Chair.

The following Note by the Rev. H. Dugmore was read.

"Lieut. Col. Mason, of Neeton Hall (four miles from Swaffham), has had a Sea Eagle, Haliaetus albicilla, Sav., in confinement for the last sixteen years. About a month since, it dropped an egg, which is now in my callection. The egg is perfectly white, and not quite so large as that of a Goose: the shell is rather harder."

A letter was read from Capt. Green of Buckden, Huntingdonshire, descriptive of a very fine specimen of the barn-door *Hen* in his possession, which has assumed the *Cock* plumage: the change took place about three years ago. The bird has since been presented to the Society by the writer.

Mr. Owen read the following Notes on the Anatomy of the Wombat, Phascolomys Wombat, Pér.

"The anatomy of the Wombat having already engaged the attention of Cuvier ('Lecons d'Anat. Comparée, passim) and Home (Phil. Trans. vol. xcviii, 1808, p. 304,) but little remains to be added on

that subject.

"The individual lately dissected at the Museum of the Zoological Society had lived at the Gardens upwards of five years. The one which was dissected by Sir Everard Home in 1808 was brought from one of the islands in Bass's Straits, and lived as a domestic pet in the house of Mr. Clift for two years. This animal measured two feet two inches in length, and weighed about 20lbs: it was a male. The Society's specimen was a female, and weighed, when in full health in October 1833, 594lbs.

"On removing the integuments of the abdomen, much subcuta-

neous fat, of the lard kind, was observed.

"The muscles of the abdomen presented the same arrangement as in other Marsupiata; the internal pillars of the external abdominal rings being formed by the marsupial bones, round which a broad cremaster, emerging from each ring, wound inwards and upwards to terminate by spreading over the mammary gland.

"The digestive organs in the abdominal cavity presented a development corresponding generally to that which characterizes the

same parts in the phytiphagous Rodents.

"The stomach precisely corresponded with the description and figure given by Home; but the occurrence of cardiac glands in the Dormouse and Beaver renders a similar structure in this Marsupial, in which the Rodent type of dentition exists, less extraordinary than

No. XLI.—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

it might otherwise appear. The duodenum commenced by a large pyriform dilatation, similar to that in the Capybara and Spotted Paca; beyond this part it presented a diameter of an inch; the small intestines then gradually widened to a diameter of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and as gradually diminished again to the diameter of an inch: their entire length was 11 feet 3 inches.

The ileum entered obliquely the wide sacculated colon, the bulging commencement of which represented a short and wide cecum; and from the angle between this part and the ileum, a cylindrical vermiform process 2 inches long, and 3 lines wide, was continued.

"The colon continued to be puckered up by two wide longitudinal bands into large sacculi, which could be traced becoming less and less distinct along an extent of the gut measuring five feet 2 inches. Cuvier observes that the large intestines were hardly more voluminous than the small *; in our specimen the color measured 24 inches in diameter, being more than double that of the ileum. But a more important difference was observed in the presence of a second cecum at the distance from the first above mentioned. This consisted of a pyramidal pouch projecting 3 inches from the side of the gut, and communicating freely with the same at its base: its parietes were thinner than those of the rest of the large intestine; it was situated below the pyloric end of the stomach, had only a partial investment of peritoneum, and adhered by a cellular medium to the duodenum and pancreas. Below this second cacum, or lateral dilatation, the colon formed a large sacculus, and was then disposed in a series of smaller sacculi, which at length disappeared at a distance of 6 feet from the second cacum; the rest of the large intestine, 3 feet in length, was of simple structure, and of smaller diameter, viz. 14 inches.

"The internal surface of the small intestines presented some slight transverse corrugations; that of the colon was smooth, except below the second cacum, where the lining membrane was corrugated irre-

gularly; and a small patch of glands was here observable.

"The rectum terminated, as in other Marsupials, immediately behind the urethro-sexual aperture, and within a common outlet, both the excretory orifices being embraced by a common cutaneous

sphincter.

"The liver was more completely separated into lobes than in the specimen dissected by Cuvier. Home is silent as to the structure of the liver; his observations respecting the digestive organs are limited to the peculiarities of the stomach. In our specimen the liver was divided by an extensive longitudinal fissure into two lobes, the right of which was again deeply subdivided into two, the gall-bladder being lodged in this second fissure; the gall-bladder was of an oval form, 24 inches in length.

"The pancreas and spleen were both well developed, and had each.

^{* &}quot;Dans le Phascolome, les gros intestins ne sont guère plus volumineux que les petits." Leçons d'Anat. Comp., nouv. ed.

the descending process which characterizes these parts in the Mar-

supial animals.

"The parotid glands were very thin, situated upon, and partly on the issuer side of, the posterior portion of the lower jaw; they measured each 14 inch in length, and 4 inch in breadth; the duct passed directly upwards and outwards till it reached the orifice of the sternocleido-mastoideus; here it was buried in the cellular substance anterior to that muscle, then turned over the ramus of the jaw, and continued its course over the masseter, where it was slightly tortuous; it entered the mouth just anterior to the edge of the buccinator. The submaxillary glands were each about the size of a walnut; their ducts terminated, as usual, on each side of the frænum linguæ.

"The heart of the Wombat presented the usual peculiarities occurring in this part of the Marsupial organization; viz. 1st, the two appendages of the right auricle, one passing in front and the other behind the ascending aorta; 2ndly, the absence of the annulus and fossa, evalis; and 3rdly, the absence of the terminal orifice of the coronary vein which empties itself into the cava superior sinistra just before the wide termination of the latter vein in the auricle by the side of the cava inferior. The right auriculo-ventricular opening is widely open, and is guarded by an irregular narrow membranous valve, the outer portion of which is attached to the tendons of three carnea columna; two of which are of a large size as compared with the third, and arise, as in the Kangaroo, from the septum near the angle where this is joined to the parietes of the ventricle. The muscular walls are continued obliquely upwards in a conical form to the origin of the pulmonary artery, somewhat resembling a bulbus arte-This peculiarity is still more marked in the Kangaroo. The right ventricle descends nearer to the apex of the heart in the Wombut than in the Kangaroo, and the form of the heart is longer and parrower. The left auricle is smaller and more muscular than the right; the valve between it and the ventricle is, as usual, broader and stronger, and its free margin is attached to the tendons of two thick columna carnea, having the usual origins distinct from the septum, leaving that part of the inner surface of the ventricle smooth for the passage of the blood to the aorta. The pulmonary veins terminate by two trunks in the left auricle.

"The lungs consisted of one lobe on the left side, and one on the right, with the lobulus medius; which was a small strip extended be-

tween the heart and diaphragm.

"The thyroid glands were elongated bodies of a dark colour, reaching from the thyroid cartilage to the seventh tracheal ring on each side.

"The kidneys were each 24 inches long, and 2 inches broad, and of a somewhat compressed oval figure; the tubuli terminated on a single obtuse mammilla.

"The specimen dissected by Cuvier being, like that examined by Home, a male, the female organs of the Wombat are only known by

the description appended to the paper of the latter author, which relates to an impregnated individual. I found no part of the structure which supports the view taken by Sir Everard Home relative to the passage of the fecundating fluid to the sterus; the only natural communication between those cavities and the urethro-sexual canal being by the two lateral vaginal canals. The female organs consist, as in the Opossum, of two ovaries, two Fallopian tubes, two uteri, each opening by a separate os tinez into a distinct vagins; the vagise having no intercommunication, but terminating in the common pess-

age of Tyson, or urethro-sexual canal.

"The wrethro-sexual canal is 1, inch in length; its inner surface is disposed in thick folds. The two anterior ones commencing united together form a semilunar fold above the urethral aperture; these folds are deeply intersected with oblique ruge, the margins of which are villous, the villi becoming longer and finer as they approach the orifices of the true vagine. These commence + an inch above the urethral orifice: their parietes are very thick for the extent of one inch, and the lining membrane of this part is disposed in minute longitudinal ruge; it is then disposed in larger, coarser, and villous ruge, similar to those of the first vaging, beneath which membrane several small vesicles were developed. Each of the true vegine having ascended with an outward curve for 2 inches, receives the os timos of its respective aide, which is very projecting, and divided by deep fissures into numerous processes, resembling a short tassel. The vagine then descend to the upper part of the wrethro-sexual canal, forming each a deep and large cul de sac, the inner surface of which is characterized by irregular villous ruge, and the whole is highly vascular. The culs de sac are separate as in the Opossum, and do not communicate as in the Kangaroo.

"The uteri are each 2 inches long, and 4 of an inch in diameter, somewhat flattened, pyriform, and giving off the oviducts from the inner or mesial part of their fundes. For the extent of an inch, the lining membrane presents a series of small but well-defined longitudinal ruge, beyond which it assumes a fine texture, like velvet. The peritoneal covering of the uterus is reflected from it upon the ovarian ligament, the oviduct and the numerous vessels passing to the aterus on the outer side of this ligament, the duplicature or broad ligament containing which parts is 14 inch in breadth, and attached by its outer margin to the lumber region of the abdomen as high as the kidney: just below this gland it is reflected upon the ovary, forming a large capsule for that part, and for the expanded extremity of the Fallopian tube, which presents an extraordinary development of fringe-

like processes.

"The ovary presents the most distinct recemose structure which I have ever observed in the class Mammalia, consisting of about thirty ovisacs, of which the largest is half an inch, the smallest half a line in diameter; the whole ovary being of an oblong irregular figure 14 inch by 1 inch in dimensions. The mouth of the ovarian

capsule is about 1 inch in width, the length of the Fallopian tube 3 inches."

Some Notes by Mr. George Bennett, Corr. Memb. Z.S., were read. They were transmitted from Sidney, New South Wales, in a Letter addressed to the Secretary, and bearing date October 25, 1835. They related to the habits of the Spermaceti Whale, and of the large species of Grampus known by the name of the Killer.

May 24, 1836.

William Ogilby, Esq., in the Chair.

A letter addressed to the Secretary by J. B. Harvey, Esq., Corr. Memb. Z.S., and dated Teignmouth, May 18, 1836, was read. It referred to a collection of various marine productions of the south coast of Devonshire, which accompanied it, and which were presented to the Society by the writer. These were exhibited.

Among them was a specimen of Capros Aper, La Cép., captured in Mr. Harvey's neighbourhood: and with the view of illustrating the colours of this species, he forwarded with it a painting made from

the fish while yet recent. This also was exhibited.

With the collection were several specimens of a *Tubularia*, nearly related to *Tub. indivisa*, of which Mr. Harvey furnished a detailed description, accompanied by numerous figures. The description was

read, and the figures were exhibited.

Mr. Harvey first observed the *Tubularia* in question at the steam bridge on the river Dart, where it grows in clusters between the links of the chain over which this floating bridge is propelled. The specimens obtained by him in this locality were necessarily injured in the hurried manner of taking them off during the rapid motion of the bridge; but as they were immediately placed in sea-water most of them have survived the force used in separating them, and he has thus been enabled to observe them for a week or ten days, during which he has carefully studied their form and structure. His drawings are intended to illustrate many of the different positions of the polype in various conditions as to growth, expansion, &c.

"This animal," Mr. Harvey remarks, "is evidently a Tubularia. It is something like Tub. indivisa figured by Ellis, Plate XVI. no. 2. fig. c., but differs in several particulars. The tube of Ellis's Tubularia is jointed; the head has a lateral groove or opening; and the central projection (which is an elongation of the membrane covering the body) is much larger and higher, and is not surmounted by a row of slight long feelers. This Tubularia (for which, as a distinction, I submit the term Tub. gracilis,) has the tube hollow throughout and single; the body has no lateral groove; the central process has a row of fine long feelers near its termination, and placed round the orifice: their office is to direct the food to the mouth. On the circumference of the cup is a row of very long flexible feelers, having much freedom of motion, and between each two of them is a smaller red feeler; from the circumference to the origin of the central process are two or three confused rows of alternate white and red short papillæ, giving the animal much the appearance of a flower.

"The powers of contraction and dilatation very much resemble those of the Caryophyllia, which I have still alive, and which I have kept for two years. Upon the slightest touch all the feelers are instantly contracted; but the shaking of the water does not at all incommode them. I kept several clusters in the same bowl with my Caryophyllia; but I found that, every time they came near it, (either by being touched or by shaking the vessel) they were devoured: I therefore, now keep them by themselves, but I fear that I shall not be successful in preserving them, as the river tide cannot be imitated in confinement.

"The locality of this polype is very confined. The Dart floating bridge is propelled upon two chains, about 6 feet distant from one another, and stretching across the river. On the western chain not a cluster could be seen, but on the eastern one there were upwards of a hundred groups of them, in spite of the immense friction to which they were exposed. They are only found within 100 feet of the northern shore at low water. I have since observed the same animals growing on the links over which the floating bridge at Devonport runs, and there they do not occupy a space exceeding 150 feet.

"The most singular circumstance attending the growth of this animal, and which I discovered entirely by accident, remains to be mentioned. After I had kept the clusters in a large bowl for two days, I observed the animals to droop and look unhealthy. On the third day the heads were all thrown off, and lying on the bottom of the vessel; all the pink colouring matter was deposited in the form of a cloud, and when it had stood quietly for two days, it became a very fine powder. Thinking that the tubes were dead I was going to throw them away, but I happened to be under the necessity of quitting home for two days, and on my return I found a thin transparent film being protruded from the top of every tube: I then changed the water every day, and in three days time every tube had a small body reproduced upon it. The only difference that I can discover in the structure of the young from the old heads, consists in the new ones wanting the small red papillae, and in the absence of all colour in the animal."

The skin was exhibited of a species of Cynictis, Og., which had recently been presented to the Society by Captain P. L. Strachan, by whom it was obtained at Sierra Leone. The exhibition was accompanied by a description of the animal by Mr. Martin, which was read.

Mr. Martin regards the animal as especially interesting on account of its presenting the second instance of the new form among the *Viverridæ* which was described by Mr. Ogilby at the Meeting of the Society on April 9, 1833, under the generic appellation of *Cynictis*, and of which a detailed description and figure has since been published in the Transactions, vol. i. p. 29. It agrees with that genus, which is intermediate between *Herpestes* and *Ryzæna*, in its general form; in the number of the toes with which its feet are fur-

nished; and in the number and form of its teeth, as far as they are preserved in the specimen exhibited, which, however, is that of a young individual. The points of the teeth are consequently in it unworn and acute: while in the specimen of Cyn. Steedmanni described by Mr. Ogilby, which was evidently an aged individual, the teeth were much worn down. The only other differences which exist between the teeth of the new species and those of Cyn. Steedmanni consist in the presence, in the outermost incisor in the upper jaw of the former, of a minute but decided internal tubercle, which is not found in the corresponding tooth of Cyn. Steedmanni; and in the inner lobe of the carnassier of the upper jaw being acute and conical, instead of blunt: the teeth behind this, in both jaws, are wanting in the specimen of the new species. The feet of the new species differ from those of Cyn. Steedmanni by their comparatively shorter claws; and by having a naked line extending along the under surface of the tarsus from the pad to the heel, the whole of the under surface of the tarsus being covered in Cyn. Steedmanni with hair.

The new species may be thus characterized:

CYNICTIS MELANURUS. Cyn. saturatè rufus nigro punctulatus, ed latera pallidior; guld sordidè flavescenti-brunned; artubus internè abdomineque sordidè flavescenti-rufis; caudá apicom versus latè nigra, ad apicem floccosa.

Long. corporis cum capite, 12 unc.; cauda, pilis inclusis, 11; ca-

pitis, 2 unc. 1 lin.

In addition to the distinctive characters which have been noticed above, it may be remarked that Cyn. melanurus differs from Cyn. Steedmanni in the greater smoothness, shortness, and glossiness of the fur; in the less bushy character of the tail; in the dark tint of the head, back, and limbs; in the dusky colour of the throat; and in the black tip of the tail, the corresponding portion of this organ in Cyn. Steedmanni being white.

in Cyn. Steedmanni being white.

Mr. Ogilby remarked, that the animal described by Mr. Martin might probably be identical with the one noticed by Bosman under the name of Kokeboe; but added, that the notice given of it by that traveller was not sufficiently precise to admit of its being determined

with certainty.

A specimen was exhibited of the Chironectes Yapock, Desm., on

which Mr. Ogilby remarked as follows.

"I am indebted to Mr. Natterer for the opportunity of examining this rare and curious animal, of which he brought various specimena from Brazil. That now exhibited is a male, and possesses the same anomaly in the generative organs which characterizes the rest of the Marsupials. I have not seen the female, but Mr. Natterer informs me that the abdominal pouch is complete. The species is found in all the smaller streams of Brazil, and appears to extend from the southern confines of that empire, to the shores of the Gulf of Honduras; Buffon's specimen came from Cayenne, and a skin was recently obtained by Mr. W. Brown Scott, labelled 'Demerara Otter.'

Both this and Mr. Natterer's specimen agree with the figure and description of Buffon, except that they are of a larger size, and instead of a grey mark over each eye, have a complete band of that colour extending entirely across the forehead. In Mr. Natterer's specimen the terminal half-inch of the tail only is white; in Mr. Scott's on the contrary, the last 4 inches are of this colour: the tail is exactly of the same length as the body; it measured 10 inches in the former specimen and 12 in the latter, but Mr. Natterer informs me that he has other specimens which measure 14 or 15 inches

in length.

"The teeth of this animal are altogether different from those of the Opossums (Didelphis); and I am at a loss to reconcile my own observations with those of M. F. Cuvier upon this subject, as given in 'Les Dents des Mammifères' p. 73, unless by supposing that there must have been some mistake about the skull referred by M. Cuvier to the Yapock. For my own part, I could not be deceived in this matter, as the skull which I examined had never been extracted from the specimen. The incisors and canines are of the same form and number as in the true Opossums, the two middle incisors above being rather longer than the lateral, those below broader and a little separate. The molars are five on each side, two false and three real, both in the upper and under jaws. The first false molar is rather small and in contact with the canine, both above and below: the second is half as large again, and both are of a triangular form, with apparently two roots. The three real molars are of the normal form of these teeth among the Opossums. The first of the upper jaw is longer than it is broad, and has four sharp elevated tubercles with a low heel projecting backwards; the second resembles it in general form, but is larger and broader; the third is small and resembles the tuberculous molars of the true Carnivora. In the lower jaw the three real molars do not materially differ in point of size. They are narrower than those of the upper, have their tuberdes arranged in a single longitudinal series, a single large one in the centre, and a smaller on each side.

"The Yapock has very large cheek-pouches which extend far back into the mouth, and of which the opening is very apparent. This circumstance, hitherto unobserved by zoologists, throws considerable light upon the habits of this rare animal, which thus appears, like the Ornithorhynchus, to feed upon freshwater Crustacea, and the larvæ of insects, spawn of fishes, &c. which it probably stows away in its capacious cheek-pouches. For 2 inches at the root the tail is covered with the same description of fine close fur as the body; from this part it tapers gradually to the point and is covered with small scales, arranged in regular spiral rows, and interspersed with bristly hairs, particularly on the under surface, a fact perfectly conclusive against the generally received opinion of this organ being prehensile in the Chironectes. Indeed, the tail so perfectly resembles that of the Hydromys chrysogaster, even to the white tip, that it would be impossible to distinguish these organs if separated from the respective animals. The useless appendage of a prehensile tail to an aquatic animal, must consequently be henceforth discarded from the history of the Chironectes, and the animal allowed to take its place among conterminous genera, not as a compound of anomalous and contradictory characters, but as a regular component link in the scale of existence. That its habits are purely aquatic, and that it has not the power of ascending trees, is further proved by the structure of the extremities. The hind feet are broad like those of the Beaver; the toes, including the thumb, united by a membrane, and, with the exception of the thumb, provided with small falcular claws; the thumb, as in all the other Didelphidous Pedimana, is without a claw. The fore-fingers are separate, very long and slender, (the middle and ring-fingers the longest of all,) and the last joint expanded and flattened as in the Geckos. The thumb is placed rather behind the general line of the other fingers, and seems at first sight to be opposable: it perfectly resembles those of the American Monkeys. The claws are very small and weak; they do not extend beyond the points of the fingers, nor even so far, and are absolutely useless either for climbing or burrowing. Considerably behind the others, on the outside of the wrist, there is a lengthened tubercle resembling a sixth finger, but much shorter than the others and without any bone. What purpose this unique organ may serve in the economy of the animal's life, it is impossible to conjecture, but the long slender fingers are probably used to pick out the food which it carries in the cheek-pouches."—W. O.

June 14, 1836.

William Yarrell, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Specimens were exhibited of various Birds from Northern Africa, which had recently been presented to the Society by Sir Thomas Reade, Corr. Memb. Z.S. They included the Anas marmorata, Temm., on which Mr. Gould remarked that in the form of the bill it approached nearly to the Pin-tailed Duck, Anas acuta, Linn., although it is altogether destitute of the elongation of the middle tail-feathers which occurs in that bird; the crested Duck; the Gadwall; the Garganey; the Ruff, and the black-tailed Godwit, in their winter dress; the Golden Oriole; and other species: all of which were severally brought under the notice of the Meeting by Mr. Gould, at the request of the Chairman.

Mr. Gould subsequently exhibited specimens of various Birds which he had recently received from M. Temminck: including a new species of Ptarmigan from Siberia; and a Trogon from the Indian Islands, nearly allied in almost every particular to the Trog. erythrocephala of the Himalaya, but having the wing fully an inch

shorter, with a tail bearing a relative proportion.

The Secretary announced the arrival in the Menagerie, since the last Meeting of the Society, of the four *Giraffes*, the capture of which was described by M. Thibaut in a letter read at the Meeting on February 9, 1836, and translated in the 'Proceedings' at p. 9.

He also directed the attention of the Members to a specimen of Temminck's Horned Pheasant, Tragopon Temminckii, Gray, which had recently been added to the Menagerie by the liberality of J. R. Reeves, Esq., of Canton: to a pair of the Serin Finch, Fringilla Serinus, Linn., brought from Italy for the Society, and presented to it by Mr. Willimott; and to a monstrous variety of the Indian Tortoise, Testudo Indica, Linn., which had also been lately added to the Menagerie, and which is remarkable for the great irregularity of the surface of its shell, each of the plates being raised into high conical eminences.

A paper was read by Mr. Martin "On the Osteology of the Sea Otter, Enhydra marina, Flem." It is founded on a perfect skeleton of the animal contained in the collection made by that energetic traveller the late David Douglas, and acquired, subsequent to his decease, by the Society. This skeleton was exhibited.

Mr. Martin refers in the first instance to the dentary characters of this remarkable animal, which were correctly described and

No. XLII,—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

figured by Home in the 'Philosophical Transactions' for 1796; and then adverts to some erroneous statements which have since been made respecting its molar teeth by various authors, including Cuvier, who appear to have possessed no opportunities of examining specimens. In the course of his communication he describes in detail the number and form of the teeth, which consist of six incisors in the upper jaw and of four in the lower, the outer one on each side in either series being larger than the others and assuming, in the upper jaw, somewhat of the form of the canines; of a strong canine on each side of the incisors in either jaw; and of four molars on either side in the upper, and five in the lower jaw, of which two in the upper and three in the lower are false and successively increase in size towards the true molars, the latter being large, broad teeth, with flattened crowns somewhat depressed in the middle: in the upper jaw the hindermost of the true molars is much larger than the other, while in the lower it is comparatively small.

The total length of the skeleton is 3 feet 2 inches; of which the

skull measures 5 inches, and the tail, 10.

The general form of the skull nearly resembles that of the Common Otter, Lutra vulgaris, Storr; but it is proportionally broader, and is more convex on its lateral parietes, in this respect approaching to many of the Seals: the nasal bones form a broad plane, and do not gradually decline, like those of the Common Otter, towards the nasal opening; they are also shorter in proportion than in that species: the breadth of the nasal opening is greater than its depth, proportions which are reversed in the Common Otter: the post-orbital space is less contracted: on the base of the skull the space between the pterygoid processes is more considerable: and the whole contour of the cranium is not only broader but deeper also. The lower jaw maintains the same general tendency to greater compactness, and is stouter and shorter than in the Common Otter.

Detailed admeasurements are given by Mr. Martin of the skull of an individual more advanced in age than the one whose skeleton is preserved, and in which the entire length of the *cranium* is 5 inches; the greatest breadth, being across the occipital ridge behind the auditory foramen, nearly 4 inches, the breadth between the zygomata being the same; the depth from the point of union of the inter-parietal with the occipital ridge to the foramen magnum, 14; the distance from the foramen magnum to the bony palate, 24; and the length of the bony palate, 24.

The chest is rather wide in form, but much compressed; being 6 inches across at the sixth rib, while its greatest depth from the vertebral column to the sternum is 2½ inches. The direction of the ribs is obliquely backwards, and they are rather slender: their number is thirteen, (not fourteen, as is stated by Home,) the last five being false and attached by very long cartilages to the cartilages of the true ribs.

The lumbar vertebræ are six in number.

The anterior extremities are short and small. The scapula is 3 inches in length and 2 in its greatest breadth: its spine is feeble and but slightly elevated. The humerus is 3 inches in length; and is stouter and less laterally compressed than that of a common Otter of the same longitudinal dimensions. The ulna and radius are stout, and are separated from each other by a greater interval than in the common Otter. The paws are remarkable for their diminutive size. In the common Otter, from the extremity of the radius to the nail of the last phalanx of the third finger the measurement is 3 inches; in the Enhydra it is $2\frac{1}{2}$.

The pelvis is long and narrow, measuring from the crest of the ilium to the tuber ischii 6 inches: in the common Otter, the measurement is but 4. The iliac bones are remarkably thick and solid, and turn out from the spinal column. The distance from the centre of the acetabulum to the crest of the ilium is 3 inches; the breadth of

the ilium 14.

It is in the posterior limbs that the great power of the Enhydra appears to be developed. The os femoris is short but very thick, and its trochanter is bold and prominent: the trochanter minor is small. The head of the femur is globular, and is destitute of the ligamentum teres, as in the Seals: in the Otter this ligament exists as usual. The length of the thigh bone from the great trochanter to the condyles is 34 inches. Both the tibia and fibula are large and of great comparative length: in the common Otter, they do not exceed the femur; but here they exceed it by more than an inch, the measurement being 44 inches.

It is in the hind paws or paddles, Mr. Martin remarks, that the greatest difference exists between the Otter and the Enhydra. They are here admirably constructed as organs of aquatic progression. Their length from the os calcis to the last phalanx of the outer toe is 74 inches; and as the toes are long and connected by intervening webs they form broad efficient oars. The toes graduate regularly from the inner toe, which is the shortest, to the outer or fifth toe, which is the longest. The metatarsal bone of the inner toe measures 14 inch, the toe analogous to the thumb and composed of only two phalanges measures the same—the other toes have three phalanges as usual; the metatarsal bone of the fifth toe measured obliquely across from the end of the metatarsal bone of the first toe to that of the fifth is 2 inches.

The nails of the fore paws are small and sharp; those of the paddles are blunt, but curved.

The os penis is a stout bone 34 inches in length.

Mr. Martin concluded by remarking that as the hinder extremities are placed far backwards, and when stretched out in the act of swimming exceed the tail, this organ will appear placed between them, almost as much as it is in the Seals; between which animals and the Otters the Enhydra forms, in his estimation, a palpable link

of union, approximating, in some portion of its osseous structure,

even more to the former than to the latter.

Mr. Martin added that it was his intention, with the view of rendering his communication more complete, to review the osteology of the Enhydra in detailed comparison with that of the common Otter and of the Seal.

A drawing was exhibited of a Saurian Reptile of the family Scincidæ and of the genus Tiliqua, Gray, which forms part of the Museum of the Army Medical Department at Chatham, and which is regarded by Mr. Burton, Staff-Surgeon, in charge of the Museum, as hitherto undescribed.

It was accompanied by the subjoined character and description by

Mr. Burton.

TILIQUA FRENANDI. Til. auribus profundis, latis, margine antico simplici; squamis dorsalibus valde tri-carinatis; suprà pallide brunnea strigis saturatioribus ornata, infrà albescens; lateribus brunneo variis alboque maculatis; guld brunneo lineatd.

Long. corporis capitisque 6 unc.; capitis collique, 21; caudæ, ?

Hab. apud Fernando Po.

"There are eight rows of hexagonal imbricated scales on the back and tail, and two additional rows between the fore and hind legs; the lateral scales are irregular in form and size. Submental scales large, in three transverse rows; the first containing a single scale, the second a pair, the third a pair with an intermediate rudimentary one. Subcervical and ventral scales in eight rows; subcaudal in five rows, of which the middle row is the larger. There is a single row of anal scales, curved upwards. Scales of the upper surface of the body 3-keeled, of the lower smooth. A semicircular series of five plates over each orbit separated by a long narrow frontal: five occipital plates, the posterior ones largest: nasal, post-nasal, and labial plates varied in form and size.

"Head, back, tail and upper surface of the extremities reddish brown, a blackish line intersecting each row of scales; sides lighter, marked by a series of irregular blackish streaks; belly and under surface of tail a brownish white; throat alternated longitudinally with light and dark-brown lines; submental scales whitish, bordered with

a broad dark-brown edge.

"A single row of blunt teeth on the margin of the jaws.

"Body of nearly uniform shape from the commissure of the lips to the tail."

June 28, 1836.

William Yarrell, Esq., V.P. in the Chair.

A note addressed to Colonel Sykes by Lieut. Henning, R.N., was read. It noticed the capture of an *Albatross* by a hook; and stated that the bird, while so attached, was fastened on by another of the same species, but whether with the intention of endeavouring to release it, or with the view of taking advantage of its helpless condition, the writer did not attempt to determine.

Some observations were read by Mr. Gray "On the genus Mos-

chus of Linnæus, with descriptions of two new species."

The only character, Mr. Gray remarks, by which this genus, as established by Linnæus and others, differs from the genus Cervus, consists in the absence of horns; for the elongated canines are common to it and most of the Indian species of Cervus, especially the Cerv. Muntjac. The character of the fur, the degree of hairiness or nakedness of the metatarsus, and the presence or absence of the musk-bag in the male, offer, however, good characters for the subdivision of the group into three very distinct sections or subgenera.

The first of these divisions, for which Mr. Gray would retain the name of Moschus, comprehends only the Thibet Musk, Moschus moschiferus, Linn. In common with the Deer and Antelopes it has the hinder and outer side of the metatarsus covered with close erect hair; like many of the Deer also, its fur is quill-like and brittle; it has, moreover, a throat entirely clothed with hair; and the males are provided on the middle of the abdomen with a large pouch secreting musk. Its young, like those of most of the Deer, are spotted, while

the adult animal is plain-coloured.

The division to which Mr. Gray in the year 1821, in a paper in the Medical Repository, gave the name of Meminna, also consists of but a single species, the Moschus Meminna, Linn. In this group the hinder edge of the metatarsus is covered with hair, but there is on its outer side, a little below the hock, a rather large smooth naked prominence, which is flesh-coloured during life; the fur is rather soft, spotted and varied with white, which becomes less conspicuous in the older specimens, but does not appear ever to be entirely lost; the throat is entirely covered with hair; and there is no musk-bag in either sex. The false hoofs are distinct, although denied to the animal both by Linnæus and Buffon.

The third and last subdivision is characterized by Mr. Gray, under the name of *Tragulus*, as having the hinder edge of the metatarsus nearly bald and slightly callous, a character which distinguishes them at once from all other *Ruminants*; the fur is soft, and adpressed like that of *Meminaa*, but not spotted even when young; the throat is provided with a somewhat naked, concave, subglandular, callous disk, placed between the rami of the lower jaw, from which a band extends to the fore part of the chin; and they have no musk-bag. Like all the other species of the Linnean genus Moschus, they have false hoofs; and most of them have the edges of the lower jaw, three diverging bands on the chest, and the under surface of the body more or less purely white. The species of this division scarcely differ in colour in the various stages of their growth; the young fawn resembling the adult in every particular except in size.

In this division, the synonymy of which is extremely confused, Mr. Gray reckons four species, two of which he describes as new,

arranging and characterizing them as follows:

Moschus Javanicus. Mosch. ferrugineus nigro variegatus; collo saturate brunneo griseo nebulato; menti margine, strigis pectoralibus tribus postice latioribus, pectore, abdomine, femoribus interne, caudaque subtus, albis; pedibus, capitis lateribus, prymnaque nitide fulvis; occipite nigrescenti. Long. corp. capitisque simul poll. 24; metatarsi 44 poll.

Moschus Javanicus, Gmel., Syst. Nat. 1. p. 174. ex Pallasio. Raffles in Linn. Trans. xiii. p. 261? Benn., Zool. Gard., p. 41.

Tragulus Javanicus, Pall., Spic. Zool. zii. p. 18. in notd.

Moschus Indicus, Gmel., Syst. Nat. 1, p. 172.

Cervus Javanicus, Osbeck, Iter, p. 273.

Moschus Napu, F. Cuv. Mamm. t.

Chota Beta, Rou de Ramon, Cab. Madr. t. 9.

Hab. in Insulis Java et Sumatra.

This species, Mr. Gray states, is at once known by its larger size, pale colour, and the white of the entire under surface of the body, with the exception of the two longitudinal dusky stripes which separate the three white stripes of the chest from each other, and of a simple narrow pale band across the chest.

2. Moschus Kanchil. Mosch. fulvus, nigrescenti variegatus; nuchá strigá latá nigrá longitudinali; gulá, colli corporisque lateribus, pallidè flavescentibus, pilis nigro-apiculatis; antipedibus nitidè fulvis; menti marginibus, strigis tribus pectoralibus, pectore, abdomine, femoribus posticè, caudáque subtùs, albis; pectore abdomineque strigá longitudinali, in illo saturatiore, in hoc pallidiore. Long. capitis corporisque simul poll. 20; metatarsi 3; poll.

Moschus Kanchil, Raffles in Linn. Trans. xiii. p. 262.

Le Chevrotain adulte, Buffon, Hist. Nat. tom. xii. p. 344.

Le Chevrotain de Java, Buffon, Hist. Nat. Suppl. tom. vi. p. 219. t. 30.

Javan Musk, Shaw, Zool. t. 173, ex tab. Buffon.

Hab. in Java.

This species Mr. Gray states to be easily distinguishable from the former by its smaller size; darker colour; the strength and distinctness of its auchal streak; the width of the band across its chest,

which is besides continued backwards into a narrow streak; and the yellow band along the middle of the belly. These characters are common to two specimens of different ages in the collection of the British Museum. The lateral white streaks on the fore part of the chest are linear, the median one subtriangular, being narrow in front and widening backwards. The two dark streaks by which they are separated are linear, of the same colour with the sides of the neck, and do not unite together in front.

3. Moschus fulviventer. Mosch. fulvus, nigrescenti variogatus; nuchd strigd longitudinali lata nigra; guld, colli lateribus, antipedibusque rufescenti-fulvis; lateribus subtùsque flavescenti-fulvis; menti marginibus, strigis tribus pectoralibus, striga lata utrinque in pectore abdomineque, femoribus internè anticèque, caudaque subtùs, albis.

Le jeune Chevrotain, Buffon, Hist. Nat. xii. p. 342. t. 42, 43. Hab. in Insulis Malaicis, et in Peninsula Indiæ Orientalis?

Very like the last, but differing from it in the under surface being pale fulvous with four white streaks, and in the lateral streaks on the chest being isolated anteriorly by means of a narrow transverse band which separates them from the white of the chin, while the median one is bounded in front by the union of the two dark streaks. There is also a small brown spot on each side of the chin just below the angle of the mouth, which is not found in the other species. The fawns only a few weeks old do not differ in colour from their parents. None of the three specimens in the collection of the British Museum have their habitats accurately marked. Two of them were from the collection of General Hardwicke, and the third was presented by Mr. Edward Burton of Chatham. Mr. Gray thinks it probable that this may be the animal indicated by Sir Stamford Raffles under the name of *Pelandoc*.

4. Moschus Stanleyanus. Mosch. rufescenti-fulvus, pilis nigroapiculatis, subtùs minùs nitidus; collo pectoreque nitide fulvis; menti marginibus, strigis tribus pectoralibus, pectore, femoribus internè anticèque, cauddque subtùs, albis; syncipite, pedibusque a genubus inde saturatioribus; rhinario, strigd utrinque oculos ambiente, auriculisque extùs et ad margines, nigris.

Var. menti marginibus minùs albis; strigis pectoralibus interruptie minùs conspicuis; guldque paulò saturatiore.

– minus conspicuis ; guiaque pauto Hah

This is immediately distinguishable from all the other species by the brightness of its colouring, and by the absence of the nuchal streak, and of the white on the under surface of the body. There are at present four living specimens in the magnificent collection of the Earl of Derby at Knowsley; and two others, consisting of a specimen of each of the varieties, in that of the Society, to which they were recently presented by Her Royal Highness the Princess Victoria. It is not known from what exact locality any of them were obtained.

Mr. Gray discusses the synonymy of the species above characterized as belonging to the subgenus Tragulus, especially with reference to the descriptions of Buffon, Pallas, Raffles, and M. Frederic From the imperfect manner in which they are described and figured, he is unable to identify with any of the foregoing species, or to separate from them as distinct, the Pelandoc figured in Marsden's Sumatra, or the Pygmy Musk of Sumatra figured in Mr. Griffith's edition of Cuvier's 'Animal Kingdom,' on which Fischer has established his Moschus Griffithii. The Mosch. pygmæus of Linnæus Mr. Gray states to belong to the genus Antilope; the hinder part of the tarsus being covered with hair, and the false hoofs very small and rudimentary, and entirely hidden under the hair of the feet; the Mosch. Americanus appears by its spotted livery to be the fawn of a species of Deer: and the Mosch. delicatulus, or Leverian Musk of Shaw, is also undoubtedly the fawn of a Deer. It is curious that Dr. Shaw quotes as a synonym of the last-named species the figure of Seba, on which alone the Mosch. Americanus is founded, while at the same time he enumerates the Mosch. Americanus as a distinct species.

Mr. Gray also made some observations "On the tufts of hair observable on the posterior legs of the animals of the genus Cervus, as a character of that group, and a means of subdividing it into natural sections." These tufts are found on the inside, or on the outside, or sometimes even on both sides, of the hinder legs of all the Deer which Mr. Gray has had an opportunity of examining, with the exception of the Muntjac, on which he has not been able to detect them either in the living state or in preserved skins. This circumstance may, however, have arisen from the fact of the living animal examined being confined in a cage; for he has uniformly found them much more conspicuous in animals which have a wide range than in such as are confined to small inclosures. Thus the various species of Deer in the magnificent parks of the Earl of Derby at Knowsley, in which the Ruminant animals are allowed an extensive range, and preserved in a state nearly approaching to wildness, exhibit the tufts in question in a much more ample state of development than such as are seen in menageries; and one of the Axis Deer at the Gardens of the Society, which has the run of a small paddock, displays them much more evidently than another specimen in the Gardens, which is confined to a stall. This difference of development, Mr. Gray suggests, may account for the little notice that has hitherto been taken of them by zoologists, who have only spoken of them incidentally, and with reference to one or two species of the group. They are found at all ages and in both sexes; and afford, therefore, a valuable adjunct in the determination of the species of the hornless females, as well as in distinguishing them from the females of the genus Antilope, in which no indication of them is to be observed: the tufts or scope that occur in some of the species of that genus being on the fore knees and evidently serving a very different purpose.

They were noticed in the American Deer by Buffon, who speaks of them as surrounding "un lichen noirdtre long de neuf lignes, fort étroit, entouré par des poils blancs et longs, qui paroissoient former aussi une sorte de brosse;" and according to M. F. Cuvier, who observed them in the Wapiti, they surround a narrow long horny substance, which is the appearance of the part in the dry state; but Col. Hamilton Smith, in his description of the same species, takes a different view of the structure with which they are connected, which he states to be "a gland imbedded in hair secreting an unctuous fluid." That the tufts really cover a glandular apparatus is rendered probable by the circumstance that in the living animal they generally assume a conical form as though imbued with some oily secretion; and the specimens preserved in spirit which Mr. Gray has examined, seem to justify this opinion; but he has had no opportunity, since his observations upon the subject were made, of confirming the fact by anatomical examination. They are generally of a paler colour than the rest of the hair upon the legs; and in some species, the Cervus Virginianus for instance, they are of a pure white which renders them very conspicuous.

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To the existence of these tufts as a generic character common to all the *Deer*, Mr. Gray states that, among the species which he has had an opportunity of examining, he has met with only one exception, that of the *Muntjac* before mentioned; and he thinks that if this animal should prove to be really destitute of the appendages in question, it would afford an additional motive, combined with the permanence of its horns and some other characters, for excluding it from the genus *Cervus*. But these tufts have also another value, that of affording by the differences in their number and position three obvious sectional divisions, which have an evident advantage over those derived from the form of the horns and other characters of a sexual and temporary nature, in being permanent at all ages and common to both sexes. These sections Mr. Gray arranges as follows:

The first has a pencil of hairs seated on the outer side of the hinder part of the metatarsus, about one third of the distance from the calcaneum towards the hoofs. This section includes Cerv. Elaphus, Canadensis, Axis, porcinus, Hippelaphus, Damu and its varieties, and niger, as well as the Stag in the Museum of the Society, called the greater Muntjac, Cerv. Tunjuc, Vig. and Horsf., in the Catalogue for 1829, p. 17, No. 303, which Mr. Gray believes to be a species of the Rusan group of Col. H. Smith with deformed horns. In Cerv. Canadensis, and perhaps also in some other species, Mr. Gray states that there is a large pad of close erect hairs on the hinder edge of the metatarsus, commencing with this tuft.

In the second section there exist two tufts of hair, one seated on the outer side of the hinder part of the metatarsus, about two thirds of the distance from the calcaneum to the hoof; and the other on the inner side of the hock or heel. This structure occurs in the Virginian Deer, Cerv. Virginianus, and in its variety Cerv. Mexicanus, as well as in an allied species of which the female exists in the Society's Museum. The internal pencil is very distinct in the Virgi-

sias Deer; and the external is also very conspicuous in consequence of the whiteness of the hairs composing it. Lord Derby's game-keeper, however, stated to Mr. Gray that there are two varieties of this species in Knowsley park, in one of which this tuft is much

more conspicuous than in the other.

The third section comprehends those species which have a very distinct tuft on the inside of the hock, but none on the outer side of the metatarsus. Mr. Gray has observed this structure in two living specimens of a species from Demerara in the menagerie of Lord Derby, which agrees best with Cerv. rufus, Desm.; in another South American species, allied to the former but apparently different, which was presented to the Society in 1828 by Sir Philip Egerton, and is now in its Museum; and in a very young spotted Faun (almost a fœtus) preserved in spirits in the collection of the British Museum. He suspects that the Brockets of South America may have the same character; and thinks he could observe the internal tufts on the specimen of the Rein Deer in the Society's Museum, but no trace of the external, the entire hinder edge of the metatarsus being covered with a uniform very thick coat of hair.

From an examination of the skin of the Elk in the British Museum, Mr. Gray is of opinion that it will probably enter into a fourth section; in as much as it appears to have very distinct tufts on the inner side of the hock, and others also on the outer side of the metatarsus about one third of its length from the heel, as in the first section; but of the existence of the latter tufts he is by no means cer-

tain, on account of the age and state of the specimen.

33

July 12, 1836.

Thomas Bell, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. Waterhouse, at the request of the Chairman, read a Paper, entitled "Description of a new genus of Mammiferous Animals from New Holland, which will probably be found to belong to the Marsu-

pial type."

The skin on which this description was founded had been lent to Mr. Waterhouse, for the purpose of describing, by Lieut. Dale, of Liverpool, who procured it whilst on an exploring party in the interior of the Swan River Settlement, about 90 miles to the S.R. of the mouth of that river. Two specimens were seen; both of which took to hollow trees on being pursued, and one of them was unfortunately burned to death in the attempt to dislodge it from its retreat. The country abounded with decayed trees and ant-hills; and Mr. Waterhouse is of opinion, from this circumstance and from some peculiarities in the structure of the animal, that it lives chiefly, if not wholly, upon ants, for which reason he proposes for it the generic name of

MYRMECOBIUS.

Dentes incisores $\frac{6}{6}$, canini $\frac{6-0}{1-1}$, pseudo-molares $\frac{5-5}{4-4}$, molares $\frac{3-3}{4-4}=48$.

Pedes antici 5-dactyli, digitis tribus intermediis longioribus; postici 4-dactyli, digitis duobus intermediis intermum superantibus; externo brevissimo; unguibus longis acutis subfalcularibus. Socilides antipedibus longiores. Caput elongatum; rhinario producto; auri-

culis mediocribus acutis. Corpus gracile. Cauda mediocris.

Mr. Waterhouse details at length the peculiarities of the dentition and other structural characters of the animal under consideration, and particularly notices the statement of Lieut. Dale that, when it was killed, the tongue was protruded from the mouth to the extent of two inches beyond the tip of the nose, its breadth being three six teenths of an inch; which circumstance, combined with the dentition of the animal, confirms him in the belief that it feeds upon With respect to its immediate affinities he confesses himself at a loss. In skinning the specimen, the part where the pouch would be placed in a marsupial animal, has been so mutilated as to render it difficult to determine whether or not it possessed one: it appears, however, to have been a female, and to have two mamme and the remains of a pouch. Mr. Waterhouse is of opinion that it will prove to be allied to the genus Phascogale; and there are also, he states, points of resemblance between it and Tupaia, as well as with the ground Squirrels, the genus Tamias of modern authors.

The species Mr. Waterhouse proposes to name Myrmecobius fasciatus: he describes it as follows: "Length from the nose to the root of the tail (measuring along the curve of the back) ten inches;

No. XLIII.—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

of the head, from the tip of the nose to the base of the ear, one inch and seven eighths; of the tail six inches and a quarter. The colour above is reddish ochre, interspersed with white hairs, the posterior half of the body being adorned with alternate black and white transverse fascise, disposed in a manner somewhat similar to those of Thylacinus cynocephalus. The under parts of the body are yellowish white; the anterior legs of the same colour on their inner sides, and of a pale buff colour externally; and the posterior legs of a pale buff colour, with the fore part of the tibize whitish, and the sole entirely bare. The hairs of the tail are mixed black, white and reddish ochre, each of these colours predominating in different parts. The reddish hue of the fore part of the body is gradually blended into the black, which is the prevailing colour of the posterior half, and which is adorned with nine white fascize; the first of these fascise (which is indistinct) commencing rather before the middle of the body, and being, in common with the second, interrupted on the back by the ground colour of the body; the third, fourth, and last extending uninterruptedly from side to side; and the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth, extending over the back, passing without coming into contact, and thus as it were dovetniling, with those of the opposite side. The hair on the head is very short and of a brownish hue above, (being composed of a mixture of black and reddish-brown with a few white hairs); and whitish beneath. The nose and lips are blackish; and there are a few long black hairs springing from under the eyes and from the sides of the muzzle. The body is covered with hair of two kinds; the outer of which is moderately long, rather coarse, and compact on the back and fore parts of the body; but over the haunches, and on the under surface, where the pouch is situated in the Marsupials, the hair is long. The under fur is short, fine and rather scanty. The tail is furnished throughout with long hairs."

In illustration of his paper Mr. Waterhouse exhibited the skin, together with drawings of the animal, of its skull, and of its dentary

characters.

The following notes of the dissection of a specimen of the Chilian Bush Rat, Octodon Camingii, Benn., by Mr. Martin, were read.

"The individual examined was a male measuring in the length of the head and body 7 inches: the tail was imperfect.

"On removing the skin from the chest and address, the shape of

the xiphoid cartilage was observed to be remiform.

"The abdominal cavity being exposed, the order of the viscers was as follows. Occupying its usual situation the liver extended from side to side, while below its edge appeared a portion of the great curvature of the atomach, and also the pylorus emerging from beneath its right lobes; the document passing from the pylorus suchlenly dipped down, crowed the upper end of both kidneys, and then made a curve appearant and merged in the rightness. The chief parties of the abdominal cavity, of comparatively spacious volume, was filled with the convolutions of the intestinal cases.

"The liver (which was highly disorganized) consisted of two nearly equal left lobes, and of two right lobes of which the outermost was partially divided, but not so completely as to make the number of right lobes three. The lobulus Spigelii was small.

"In a cleft in the first or central right lobe, a little to the right of the ligamentum latum (which was thin), appeared the gall-bladder, small, globular, and empty: its duct received several small hepatic tubes, and entered the duodenum half an inch below the pulorus.

"The spleen was attached to the lower part of the exophagus and the cardiac succelus by a riband of mesentery, half an inch in breadth when extended. In figure this viscus was pointed at both ends, and three-sided, or prismatic; its length was 14 inch; its greatest breadth half an inch.

"Beneath the cardiac portion of the stomach and the spleen, lay the pancreas, a soft indefinite mass spreading through the mesentery: a portion of it followed the course of the duodenum for about an inch. Its duct entered the intestine along with the biliary duct.

"The stomach, 2 inches in length, and somewhat more than 1 inch in depth, was of a regular figure, its cardiac sacculus projecting but little beyond the entrance of the asophagus; between which and the pyloric opening there intervened a good distance, (about ? of an inch). The pyloric portion of the stomach was of equal volume with the cardiac, and did not diminish rapidly but was globular. Internally, the stomach had a cuticular and villous portion; the cuticular liming, occupying about a third of the whole, covered the cardiac end, commencing anterior to the entrance of the asophagus.

"The small intestines measured 2 feet 6 inches in length.

"The cacum was large and sacculated, being puckered into sacculi by two strong muscular bands. It measured 3 inches in length, was loaded with fæcal matter, and was ulcerated through in several points, from which the fæces had escaped in small quantity. It was so tender that it could not be distended.

"The colon formed a loop 5 inches in length, analogous to that which exists in Capromys and Coypus: at the part where the intestine leaves this duplicature the faces assumed distinct oval forms. The first length of this fold or loop of the colon was larger than the second or returning length; and this portion with the rest of the large intestines scarcely equalled the small in diameter.

"The total length of the large intestines was 1 foot 54 inches.

"The right kidney was placed higher than the left: the kidneys were of an oval shape, and $\frac{2}{3}$ of an inch in length. The papilla was large and single.

"The renal capsule was of the size of a pea, round, of a yellow-

ish grey colour, and soft internally.

"The lungs consisted of three right and two left lobes.

"The heart presented nothing remarkable.

"The penis, measured from the pubis, was 11 inch in length. The glans was supported by an osseous stylet, and its upper surface was rough with numerous minute but horny retroverted papilla. At the orifice of the urethra were four long, conical, horny papilla,

projecting forwards, two on each side: they appeared to be four of the horny papillæ of the glass elongated and developed, for these papillæ surrounded their base and were there rather larger than lower down on the glass.

"I found, as in Capromys and Coppus, a decided decussation of the

pubic pillars of the recti abdominis muscles.

"The testes, of an oval shape, were within the abdomen, as high as the top of the haunch bones;—the epididymis formed a knot at the end of the testis, adhering closely to it, whence it sent a tube along the testis to the opposite or small end; arriving there it formed a knotted congeries of fine convolutions, from which emerged the vas deferens. To this congeries there proceeded from the abdominal ring (which was imperforate) a muscular, tubular sac, or cremaster, the fibres of which embraced it. The ring being imperforate, the testis, I imagine, never passes externally into the groin.

"The vas deferens emerging from this congeries of tubes, turned round, crossed the small end of the testis, and descended over the

vesicula seminalis of its own side.

"The vesicule seminales were 1 inch in length, alender and convoluted.

"The prostate gland was double; Cowper's glands were of the size of peas, and round. The membranous part of the wrethra was

a of an inch in length.

"The fauces were not funnel-shaped, but constricted by a lateral pillar rising up from the base of the tongue on each side to the palate, which wants tonsils and velum pendulum: the aperture thus formed just admitted the top of a pencil. The sares opened 2 or 3 lines beyond this constricted portion just above the rima glottidis; they were not therefore visible, until the fauces were fairly laid open. The contraction of the fauces is less decided than in the Coppus."

July 26, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Gould exhibited specimens of two new species of Birds from the Friendly Islands and New Holland, of which he proposed to form a genus. He stated them to approximate, in his opinion, in nearly an equal degree to the genera Lanius, Turdus, and Lamprotornis; but believed that they might with propriety be arranged among the Thrushes. Their characters were given as follows:

APLONIS.

Restrum capite paulò brevius, robustum, subcompressum; mandibulà arcuatà, ad apicem emarginatà.

Nares basales, ovales, patulæ.

Alæ breves; remigibus 2do et 3tio longissimis, 1mo et 4to æqualibus.

Cauda brevis, lata, quadrata vel sub-bifurca.

Tarsi robusti; digitis magnis; unguibus magnis curvatis, hallucis precipuè valido.

In both species the feathers of the head are lanceolate; and the general plumage above has a slight glossy hue, especially on the head and back of the neck. The species were characterized as follows:

APLONIS MARGINATA. Apl. pileo metallicè brunneo; noteo saturatè brunneo, remigibus secundariis margine externo albescentibus; humeris ferè nigris; remigibus caudaque saturatè brunneis; rostro tarsisque nigrescenti-brunneis; gastreo pallidè brunneo, rachibus plumarum ferè albis.

Long. tot., 7; poll.; rostri à rictu ad apicem, 1; ale, 3; caude, 2;

tarsi, 14.

Hab. in Insulis Amicorum.

This species formed part of a collection made by Mr. Mathews, who has lately visited these islands.

AFLORIS FUSCA. Apl. pileo et regione parotica obscure nigrosplendentibus; noteo pallide brunneo; gastreo pallidiore; remigibus caudaque brunneis; rostro tarsisque nigris.

Long. tot., 63 poll.; rostri à rictu ad apicem, vix 4; ale, 34;

caudæ, 24; tarsi, vix 1.

Hab. ad ripas fluvii Murrumbidgee, in Nova Hollandia Australi.

This species was collected, together with many other rarities, by Captain Sturt, during his expedition in the interior of Australia, and presented by him to the Society.

August 9, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

A specimen was exhibited of an Ortyx which Mr. Gould regarded as hitherto undescribed.

At the request of the Chairman he pointed out the distinguishing peculiarities of the new species, which he named and characterized as follows:

ORTYX OCELLATUS. Ortyx nigro-brunneus, dorso punctis rufo-brunneus adsperso, lateribus ocellis albi-flavidis notatis, femoribus nigris.

Long. corp. 64 unc.; alæ, 44; tarsi, 14.

Hæc species ad Ort. Montezamæ in affinitate proxima.

"Bill black, strong, and arched; top of the head, which is slightly crested, blackish brown; a large white mark extends over each eye and passes on to the back part of the neck; beneath the eye is an oval mark of blueish black; from the base of the lower mandible extends another white mark which spreads upon the front of the neck and is bounded by an abrupt margin of black; a large patch of the latter colour occupies the chin and throat; the general colour of the whole of the upper surface is brownish olive, each feather having a decided central line of chestnut following the direction of the shaft and becoming spatulate at the tip; the web of each feather is transversely barred and blotched with black; the chest and abdomen is sandy chestnut, becoming more intense on the under tail-coverts; sides of the chest and flanks transversely spotted with yellowish white on a blueish grey ground; thighs black; tail very short and partly hidden; tarsi brown.

This bird differs from Ortyx Montexuma in several particulars, but

to that species it is most nearly allied.

Mr. Gould also brought before the notice of the Meeting two new species of Birds from New South Wales, where they had been collected, and subsequently presented to the Society by Captain Sturt. They are referrible to the genus Zosterops of Messrs. Vigors and Horsfield; a group among the Sylviada, and of which but two species were known at the time those gentlemen instituted the genus. Mr. Gould placed on the table six additional species, a portion of which was from the Society's collection, and the remainder from his own. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Gould adverted to the surprising augmentation of species which has now taken place in nearly every group in ornithology; and characterized the new species mentioned above as

ZOSTEROPS ALBOGULARIS, Gould.

Zost: corpore superne, alis, caudaque, olivaceis; dorso, tectricibus alarum, caudaque, castaneo-brunneis; oculo plumulis albis circum-No. XLIV.—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SUCIETY. dato; genis maculá nigra notatis; auricularibus griseis; gula, ventre, crissoque albis; lateribus castaneis; rostro pedibusque purpurascentigriseis.

Long. corp. $5\frac{1}{2}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{7}{3}$; alæ, 3; caudæ, $2\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, 1. Hab. in Australiä, apud flumen Murrumbidgee dictum.

ZOSTEROPS TENUIROSTRIS, Gould.

Zost. vertice capitis, nuchd, guld, thoraceque viridi-flavis; oculo plumulis albis circumdato; dorso, scapulis, olivaceo-griscis; primariis rectricibusque viridi latè marginatis; ventre, crissoque brunneo-flavis; rostro pedibusque brunneis.

Long. corp. $5\frac{\pi}{5}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{\pi}{4}$; alæ, $2\frac{\pi}{5}$; caudæ, $2\frac{\pi}{5}$; tarsi, $\frac{\pi}{5}$. Hab. in Australiâ apud flumen Murrumbidgee dictum. They are the two largest known species of the genus.

Notes by W. C. Williamson, Esq., Curator to the Natural History Society, Manchester, on the appearance of rare Birds in the vicinity of Scarborough were then read, of which the following is an abstract.

"The prominent position of Scarborough with its projecting headlands separated by deep bays and its high hills covered with wood, render the neighbourhood a favourite retreat for various tribes of birds. Among the spring visitors the Siskin may be enumerated, which appears in April, remaining only a few days apparently on its route to breeding-places farther north. It is never seen at any other period of the year, though considered by authors as a winter visitor. Several examples of the Hoopoe, and one specimen of the Roller, have been shot in the neighbourhood. The stomach of the latter was filled with the elytra and other remains of a species of Curculio. Of the Water Ouzel or Dipper it is stated that, when flying down a stream it drops into the water and dives under any rails laid across from bank to bank, rather than fly over them, rising on the opposite side and pursuing its course. The nest of this bird is occasionally seen so placed under a projecting ledge that a fall of water was constantly rolling over it, thus rendering it secure from any attacks: the birds entering by the sides of the fall.

"The Redwing has been seen as late as May; these birds are remarkable for a peculiar cry uttered when disturbed and about to take

"The Hooded Crow has been known to breed near Scarborough on two or three occasions. In one instance, a female Hooded Crow was observed to pair with a Carrion Crow on a large tree at Hackness, where they succeeded in rearing their young. The Carrion Crow was shot by the gamekeeper, but the following year the Hooded Crow returned with a new mate of the same sable hue as the former one to her old nest. The carrion and young crows were again all shot; the old female by her vigilance escaped all the efforts of the keepers to destroy her, and a third time returned with a fresh mate; she was not however again so successful, but was shot, and is now preserved in the Scarborough Museum. The young

,i

birds varied, some resembling the Hooded and others the Carrion

Crow in their plumage.

"The Great or Thick-kneed Plovers breed on the fallows, and often startle the midnight traveller by their shrill and ominous whistle. This is supposed to be the note so beautifully alluded to by Sir Walter Scott in his poem of The Lady of the Lake,

'And in the Plover's shrilly strain The signal whistle's heard again.'

for it certainly sounds more like a human note than that of a bird.

"The Rough-legged Bussard breeds occasionally in a precipitous dell near Hackness. A marked female returned the following year

with a new mate to her former favourite haunt.

"Three species of the genus Lestris, the Glaucous Gull, Little Gull, Great Northern Diver, Little Auk, and Long-tailed Duck are obtained generally during the prevalence of strong north-easterly winds. Temminck's Tringa and the Olivaceous Gallinule have been killed near Scarborough. The Sanderling visits the shore in May and September. Good sport is sometimes gained at Woodcock-shooting in March, when from any cause these birds are prevented continuing their journey northward. In one or two instances a Woodcock has been seen there as late as June."

August 23, 1836.

Thomas Bell, Esq., in the Chair.

In consequence of the lamented decease of the Secretary, E. T. Bennett, Esq., the usual routine of scientific business was suspended.

September 13, 1836.

William Yarrell, Esq., in the Chair.

A communication was read from J. B. Harvey, Esq., of Teignmouth, a Corresponding Member of the Society, on the occurrence of four specimens of the *Velella limbosa* of Lamarck, which were found on the beach at Teignmouth after a continuation of southerly winds and smooth water.

A specimen was forwarded for the Society, and representations of it in four different points of view accompanied the communication.

Mr. Vigors called the attention of the meeting to a Bird, presenting a singular form among the Tinamous, which he had exhibited at one of the evening meetings in the year 1832, but which, from accidental circumstances, had not been characterized in the Proceedings. The birds of this group, which forms an immediate connecting link between the Tinamous and the Bustards, were first observed by Mr. Pentland on a high elevation in the Andes, and the specimen before the meeting was brought by that gentleman to this country and presented to the Society. Mr. Vigors described in detail the characters of the genus, to which he assigned the name of Tinamotis, and also pointed out the specific characters of the bird, to which he had on a former occasion given the name of Pentlandii, in honour of the distinguished traveller who first discovered the group.

TINAMOTIS.

Rostrum forte, subrectum, Otidis rostra persimile; culmine plano.
Alæ mediocres, rotundatæ; remigibus prima et septima ferè æqualibus, brevissimis, tertia et quarta longissimis.

Pedes tridactyli; tarsis sublongis fortibus; acrotarsiis reticulatis squamis inferioribus grandibus; digitis longitudine mediocribus, medio cæteris, quæ sunt ferè æquales, longiore, omnibus membrana utripque marginatis; acropodiis scutellatis, squamis maximis; unguibus grandibus, planis, dispansis.

Cauda brevis, subrotundata.

TINAMOTIS PENTLANDII. Tin. corpore cinereo-brunneo sordidoque fulvo fasciato, capite colloque similiter striatis; crisso femoribusque rufis; mento albescente.

Plumulæ capitis colli ventrisque magis albido, dorsi caudæque magis fulvo notatæ; narum notis maculis simulantibus. Longitudo corporis, 15; alæ, a carpo ad apicem remigis 3tiæ, 10; rostri ad frontem, $1\frac{1}{6}$, ad rictum, $1\frac{3}{6}$; tarsi, 2; digitorum, unguibus inclusis, medií, $1\frac{4}{6}$, externorum, $1\frac{1}{4}$.

Mr. Vigors took the same opportunity of describing and naming No. XLV.—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

two Parrots in the Society's Collection, one of which, now alive in the Menagerie, distinguished by a brilliant purple plumage over the head, nape, and breast, and which came from South America, he characterized under the name of Psittacus augustus; the second, of which two specimens had been procured from the late Rev. Lansdown Guilding's collection, received from the Island of St. Vincent, but the precise locality of which was not known, he described by the name of Psittacus Guildingii.

PSITTACUS AUGUSTUS. Psitt. viridis, capite, collá corporeque subtùs splendide purpureis, sincipite viridi tincto, torque nuchali saturatiore; humeris rectricibusque coccineo notatis, his ad apices purpurascenti-fusco tinctis.

Plumulæ nuchæ corporisque infrà nigro ad apices marginatæ; interscapulii tectricumque femoris azureo leviter ad apices tinctæ. Mag-

nitudo Platycerci Vasæ.

PSITTACUS GUILDINGII. Psitt. capitis fronte albescente, sincipite genisque flavis, occipite mentoque azureis, nuchd viridi; alis viridibus in medio fascia aurantiaco-flava notatis, ad apices nigris; caudd ad basin aurantiacd, deinde fascid viridi in medio lazulind

nutatá, ad apicem flavá.

Plumulæ occipitis ad basin flavescentes, deinde azureæ, fasciâ gracili nigro-brunnea; nuchæ virides fascia latiore notatæ. Remigis primaria ad basin flavæ, secundaria aurantiacæ; ad apices nigræ; interiorum plumis externis lazulino tinctis, rhachibus nigris. Rectricis suprà ad basin flavæ, deinde aurantiaco viride marginato notatæ, posteà externè lazulinæ, externè nigræ, ad apices aurantiaco-flavæ, rhachibus nigris; subtùs ad basin aurantiacæ, in medio virides, ad apices flavæ. Rostrum album. Long. corp. 17 unc.; alæ a carpo ad apicem remigis 4tæ, 12; tarsi, 3; caudæ, 8; mandibulæ superioris, 14; inferioris, 14.

Mr. Gould, at the request of the Chairman, exhibited to the Meeting two tribes of Birds, viz. the Tanatias, from the warmer parts of America, and the Coursers, from the arid regions of Africa and India. Mr. Gould observed, that of the first group, only five species appear to have been known to Linnæus; eleven others had since been added, making sixteen: the Society's collection contained thirteen species. Mr. Gould exhibited a series of drawings in illustration of the group, and characterized one new species under the name of Tamatia bicincta, as follows:

Tamatia bicincta. Tam. guld et corpore inferné subtùs ochraceofulvis; pectore duabus fasciis nigris transversim striato; lateribus flavido-albis nigro maculatis; plumis auricularibus griseis, marginalibus subtus brunned fuscd tinctis; fascid nuchali grisea; corpore summo caudaque superne brunneis; tectricibus alarum secundariis ad apicem ochraceo-albis hoc colore dorso guttato; rectricibusque externis marginalibus.

Long. tot. 8 unc.; rostri, 11; alæ, 31; caudæ, 3; tarsi, 5.

Hab. Cayenne?

Mr. Gould stated in conclusion, that this formerly limited group now constitutes a considerable family, or subfamily, whose members appear naturally to form themselves into at least three or four genera: thus divided, the genus Tamatia, Cuv. (Capito, Vieill.) contains 9 species, that of Lypornix, Wagl., 3 species; that of Monasa, Vieill., 3 species; and that of Chelidoptera, Gould, 1; the latter being a generic title provisionally instituted by Mr. Gould for the Lypornix tenebrosa, Wagl., a species which differs in many essential characters from all the other members of the group, possessing as it does a very lengthened wing, and being in every way adapted for powerful flight. He observed, that he had consulted with M. Natterer on the propriety of separating this bird from the other members of the group, in which opinion that eminent naturalist had coincided, and at the same time stated, that it usually resorted to the topmost branches of the trees, whence it sallied forth over the forest in search after its insect food, while, on the other hand, all the other members of the group kept to low thickets and the neighbourhood of the ground. In their general economy they offer a striking resemblance to the Shrikes and Flycatchers; they are, however, more indolent in their disposition, and sit motionless on a dead branch for hours together, until their attention is drawn to some passing insect, when they sally forth, capture it, and return to the same branch, which they are known to frequent for months together. With the exception of three or four species all the members of this group are confined to the Brazils.

Mr. Gould exhibited six species of the genus Cursorius, one of which was described as new by the appellation of Cursorius rufus.

Cursorius rufus. Cur. fronte castaneo-rufo; occipite griseo, fascid albd cincto hac suprà et infrà lined angusta nigra marginata; nucha rufescente; corpore summo rufescente brunneo; gula albida; pectore pallido fulvo hoc colore in faciam ventralem nigram mergente; abdomine posteriore, crissoque albis; remigibus primariis nigris; secundariis albis; prymno? rectricibusque caudæ ad basin brunneo-griseis harum duabus intermedius nota nigra apicali externis ferè albis reliquis plùs mindsve ad apicem albis nec non nigra macula griseum colorem singente; rostro nigro; digitis nigrescentibus; tarsis? albido flavis.

Long. tot., 9 unc.; rostri, 14; alæ, 54; caudæ, 2; tarsi, 3. Hab. in insulis Oceani Indici.

The new species of Cursorius was from the islands of the Indian Ocean, but from what particular locality Mr. Gould had not been able to ascertain. It differs from Curs. Asiaticus, by being smaller in all its proportions, by having the whole of the upper surface of a rich rufous brown, and by not possessing a white band across the rump. In its affinities it is closely allied to both Curs. Asiaticus and Curs. Temminckii.

Mr. Martin placed on the table two examples of the *Potto* or *Kinkajou* from the Society's Museum, and, at the request of the Chairman, read some notes describing the differences in colour, size,

and comparative measurements of parts in the two specimens, of

which the following is an abstract.

"The differences which exist in two specimens of the Kinkajou in the Society's Museum have led me to introduce them to the attention of the Meeting, as it is not improbable that they may ultimately prove to be distinct species. The Kinkajou, however, is so rare an animal both in the museums and menageries of our country, that we want the means of ascertaining whether or not, like that allied animal the Coati, its colour be subject to variations of tint and marking. But independently of the great difference in colour which obtains in the two specimens before the meeting, and on which, taken as a solitary character, we should hesitate to ground a specific distinction, at least until we had compared several specimens, it appears that the ears of the rufous specimen (which was lately presented by George Vaughan, Esq.) are more elongated than those of the other, which died in the Society's Menagerie, where it had lived for many years. It is on this difference, rather than on that of colour, that I have suspected a specific distinction; though I confess my suspicions are strengthened by the latter as a concomitant. knowledge of the precise localities from which each specimen was obtained would be of great use, but on this point, unfortunately, I have not been able to gain any information.

"In distinguishing between the two species of Kinkajou, I consider it best to drop entirely the specific title caudivolvulus, (which is applicable to both, and is descriptive rather of a generic than a specific character,) the only mode in fact by which to avoid all possibility

of confusion.

"Our first species will stand as Cercoleptes megalotus. It is distinguished by the form of the ears, which are elongated, narrow, rounded at the tip, and somewhat flapping; their length is 1 inch 3 lines, their breadth 7 lines.

"Internally they are sparely covered with thinly set soft hairs; externally they are fully clothed with hairs of a pale yellowish

white.

"The fur is close, short, thick, and rigid; the general colour is deep reddish yellow, or fulvous, with an obscure band of a darker colour, down the top of the head, the back, and upper surface of the tail, approaching to chestnut. The sides of the body and the insides of the limbs are pale fulvous; the abdomen and throat are nearly as dark as the back, and a stripe of deep chestnut commences about the end of the sternum, and is continued to the inguinal region. The tail is slender, and the hairs of this part are very rigid.

"To our second species we propose to give the name of Cercoleptes

brachvotus.

"The fur is full, soft, and moderately long; of a universally glossy yellowish grey clouded with brown, especially over the nose, on the top of the head, and down the back; and indeed little less so on the sides of the body and outer surface of the limbs. The abdomen, the insides of the limbs, and the throat are dusky straw colour. The ears are broad, short, and rounded; covered, but somewhat sparingly, on

the outside with fur of the same colour as that of the body: their length and breadth are equal, namely, 1 inch.

"The tail is moderately thick, being covered with fur of the same

character as that of the body."

- Sp. 1. Cercoleftes megalotus. Cercoleft. læte rufus, strigd saturatiore, per totam longitudinem vapitis, dorsi medii, caudæque supra excurrente; lateribus pallidioribus; abdomine guldque rufis, strigá castaned abdominali; auriculis longis, angustis, rotundatis subpendentibus et externe pilis pallide flavis, indutis caudá gracili; vellere denso brevi, atque rigido.
- Sp. 2. Cercoleptes brachyotus. Cercol. vettere denso, molli, et longiusculo, griseo flavescenti, at brunneo, undato, hoc colore in capite, summoque dorso, saturutiore: abdomine et yuld stramineis auriculis latis, mediocribus, et erectis, pilis ratioribus fuscis externè indutis.

September 27, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

A communication from Edward Fuller, Esq., of Carleton Hall, near Saxmundham, was read, which stated that his gamekeeper had succeeded last year in rearing two birds from a barn-door *Hen*, having a cross from the *Pheasant*, and a *Pheasant* cock; that the birds partook equally of the two species in their habits, manners, and appearance; and concluded by presenting them to the Society.

The gamekeeper of Edward Fuller, Esq., in a short note which accompanied the birds, stated that he had bred them, and they were

three-quarter-bred Pheasants.

The living birds were exhibited at the Meeting, as was also a living hybrid, between the *Pheasant* and common Fowl, which was one of several that had been some years in the Menagerie of the Society.

Several specimens of hybrids, from the preserved collection in the Museum of the Society, were placed on the table for exhibition and comparison. These had been bred between the *Pheasant* and common Fowl, the common Pheasant and the silver Pheasant, and the common Pheasant with the gold Pheasant.

The specimens of the three-quarter-bred *Pheasants* were considered interesting, the opinion of the older physiologists having been that animals bred between parents of two distinct species were un-

productive.

Mr. Yarrell stated, that although generally such an opinion prevailed there were still exceptions. The Proceedings of the Society for 1831 exhibited one already recorded at page 158. This communication was received from the Honourable Twiselton Fiennes. who having succeeded in rearing a brood between the common Duck and the Pintail, found in the following season these hybrids were productive. Other instances are also on record which were adverted to. Mr. Yarrell stated, that he had had opportunities of examining the bodies of hybrids, both of Gallinaceous Birds and Ducks, and found that the sexual organs of the males were of large size, those of the females deficient in size, and not without some appearance of imperfection. The crosses produced by the breeders of Canaries were mentioned, and the objects of obtaining them explained. Mr. Yarrell expressed his belief that the attempt to breed from a hybrid was most likely to be successful when a male hybrid was put to a female of a true species.

Mr. Vigors said this was the first instance that had come to his knowledge of a female hybrid being productive, and he had hitherto

considered that they were not so: he expressed his desire to see the female hybrid that had produced the three-quarter *Pheasants* then in the room, and hoped that the opportunities which the Menagerie of the Society afforded of obtaining additional evidence on this in-

teresting subject would not be lost sight of.

The Chairman stated, that it was the opinion of John Hunter that hybrids were not productive except in cases where the generative organs were in a state of perfection, which might be regarded as unnatural in hybrids, as in the rare cases recorded of fertile Mules, between the Horse and Ass. Constant fertility in the hybrid proved, in the opinion of Hunter, that the parents were varieties of the same species, not distinct species. But the Chairman stated, that the experiments recorded by Hunter in the 'Animal Œconomy' relative to the fecundity of the hybrids from the Circumstances of the hybrids having always bred from a perfect species and not having propagated the intermediate variety interse. He trusted that in a short time this test would be applied in experiments now in progress at the Society's Menagerie, and thus an additional element be gained towards the solution of this interesting question.

A small collection of Birds from Swan River, presented to the Society by Lieut. Breton and Capt. Brete, were on the table. Mr. Gould, at the request of the Chairman, observed upon the collection generally, and selected two species which he considered as undescribed, a Gallinule and a species of Duck, the latter strictly referrible to the genus Oxyura of L. Bonaparte, Prince of Musignano, (genus Undina of Gould). Mr. Gould named the Gallinule, Gallinula ventralis, and the Duck, Oxyura Australis, this being the only instance he had seen of this limited group from Australia. Of this species the collection contained both male and female, the latter of which, in the general distribution of its markings and colouring, bore so close a resemblance to the Hydrobates of Temminck that the bill alone presented the obvious distinction.

Mr. Gould characterized the Gallinula as follows:

GALLINULA VENTRALIS. Gall. guld pectore et inferioribus corporis partibus fusco-cinereis, lateribus albo guttatis, remigibus caudæ crissoque nigris; toto corpore supernè olivaceo-brunneo; alis castaneo tinctis; mandibuld superiore olivaced; inferiore ad basin rubrd, ad apicem olivaced; pedibus olivaceis.

Long. tot. 15 a 17 unc.; rostri, 14; alæ, 9; caudæ, 34; tarsi, 24.

Hab. in Australia apud flumen Cygnorum.

OXYUBA AUSTRALIS. Mas. Oxy. capite toto et colloque nigris; pectore, dorso lateribusque nitide castaneis; remigibus tectricibusque caudæ nigrescentibus, uropygio nigricante brunneo inornato; abdomine crissoque brunneo cinereis brunneo transversaliter obscurè striatis, rostro pedibusque plumbeis.

From. Differs toto corpore nigricante, obscuris lineis guttieque castaneis notato; partibus inferioribus corporis pallidioribus. Long. tot. 15 unc.; rostri, 2; alæ, 6; caudæ, 3; tarsi, 11/18.

Hab. Australia.

Hec species typum generis constat, alis brevibus atque concavis rectricibus caudse rigidis plumisque corporis nitidis.

October 11, 1836.

Joseph Cox Cox, Esq., in the Chair.

A series of Mammalia selected from the collection of the Society was exhibited. Mr. Gray made some remarks upon them illustrative of the value which he conceived was to be placed on the characters used by M. Cuvier to separate the plantigrade from the digitigrade Carnivora, and he concluded by stating that he did not regard the nakedness of the sole as a good character to separate the genera into larger or smaller groups, though from its permanence in all ages and the state of the species, it furnished excellent characters to distinguish species, to separate them into sections, and often to characterize the genera of carnivorous animals; and in proof of the latter, he referred to the excellent character which it furnished to distinguish the species of the genera Herpestes, Mephites, and Lutra. He further observed, that in many instances the extent of the nakedness of the soles appears to depend upon the temperature of the country that the animal inhabited, and mentioned that several of the animals living in countries covered with snow, which apply the whole of the soles of their feet to the ground, have this part entirely covered with hair, as the Wolverine, the Panda, the Seals, and the Polar Bear; but that this was not universally the case, for the Benturing, which inhabited the same country as the Panda, has the soles bald and papillary. He further observed, that the nakedness of the soles did not appear to be permanent even in the specimens of the same species in the Squirrel and other Glirine animals; for he had observed that the specimens of the grey Squirrels, in the Northern part of the United States, had this part covered with hair. whilst those of the Southern parts, had the soles entirely bald; and he also observed, that the various species of the Spermophile differed greatly amongst themselves in the extent of the nakedness of this

Mr. Gray then proceeded to make some remarks on the alteration in the situation of the teeth, and on the change which takes place in the form of the carnivorous tooth, in the milk and permanent teeth of the Carnivora; and stated, that the milk carnivorous tooth of the Cat, Dog, Vison, Skunk, Viverra, and indeed of all the genera which he had been able to examine, had a small central internal lobe, whilst the same tooth in the permanent set always had a large anterior lobe; he also stated, that he had observed that the tubercular grinders of the Mustelæ often vary considerably in size in the various specimens of the same species, showing that implicit reliance cannot be placed in the size of these teeth as a specific cha-

No. XLVI.—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

racter, which several persons have been inclined to do, as it is well known that the size of such teeth does not depend upon the age of the animal, as they never alter their size after they are once completely developed. Mr. Gray then proceeded to point out the characters by which the new species exhibited were distinguished: two were said to have formed part of the collection of the late Sir Stamford Raffles, and were therefore supposed to have come from Sumatra; one of them was a new species of Paradoxurus, called P. leucomystar from its strong white whiskers, and the other Mr. Gray regarded as the type of a new genus which he called Cynogale, which appeared to be intermediate between Paradoxurus and Ictides, by differing from both in the length of the face, the compressed form of the false canines, and the small size and triangular form of the carnivorous grinder. Mr. Gray proposed to call it Cynogale Bennettii, after his late friend, who, he believed, intended to have described this animal if he had lived. Then followed the description of two Foxes, (C. Magellanicus and C. griseus), which formed part of the collection made by Capt. P. P. King, during his survey of the coast of South America, and a Squirrel (Sciurus Douglasii), and three Hares, (Lepus longicaudatus, L. Californica, and L. Douglasii), discovered by the late Mr. Douglas in North America. Then the description of three new species of flying Squirrels from various parts of continental India, viz. Pteromys Melanotis, P. albiventer, and P. Leachii; the latter, presented by Mr. Mellish to the Society, is peculiar for being coloured exactly like the American Sciuroptera, but is at once distinguished from them by the length and cylindrical form of its tail; and an Herpestes from the Indian Islands, like the black Herpestes of the Cape, but differing from it in colour and in the shortness of the tail, therefore called H. brachyurus. Mr. Gray then proceeded to point out the character, taken from the form of the soles of the hind feet, by which the Skunks could be divided into three sections or subgenera, and showed the character in the four species in the collection of the Society, and referred to some other species belonging to these sections which were in the collection of the British Museum, where also he stated other specimens of several of the species, as the Dog, flying Squirrel, and Herpestes, now described, were to be found.

Mr. Gould exhibited several specimens and drawings of Birds allied to the well-known Wren of Europe; and, at the request of the Chairman, proceeded to comment upon, and characterize the undescribed species as follows:

TROGLODYTES MAGELLANICUS. Trog. corpore infrà griseo-fulvo, vinaceo tincto; crisso rufo, suprà brunneo; dorso scapulisque striis nigrescentibus obscurè ornatis; alis cauddque rufis, nigro striatis; mandibuld superiore nigrd, inferiore, nec non pedibus, pallidè brunneis

Long. tot., 41 unc.; rostri, 1/2; alæ, 2; caudæ, 2; tarsi, 1/4.

Hab. in Fretu Magellanico.

Differt à specie Trog. Equinoctialis, Swains., magnitudine majore corporis; rostro minore.

TROGLODYTES LEUCOGASTRA. Trog. corporis parte superiore remigibusque caude brunneo-rufescentibus olivaceo tinctis; caude et remigibus secundariis lineis brunneis transversaliter striatis; strigd superciliosd, gutture, pectore, abdomineque albis; lateribus, femoribus, crissoque pallidi-brunneis; mandibuld superiore fuscd, inferiore sub-albidd; pedibus brunneis.

Long. tot., $2\frac{\pi}{4}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{\pi}{4}$; alæ, 2; caudæ, $1\frac{1}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{1}{8}$.

Hab. in Mexico, in loco Taumalipus dicto.

Theyothorus guttatus. Thry, capite suprà brunneo-rubro; strigd superciliosd albd lineis quàm minimis nigris interruptd; dorso brunneo, plumis longitudinaliter albo striatis; alis albo et brunneo alternativè striatis; remigibus caudæ duabus intermediis brunneo-nigro guttatis, duabus propinquis nigrescentibus; marginibus externis guttis pallidè brunneis adspersis rectricibus duabus, externis albo atque brunneo striatis; harum externd ad apicem albo notatd; guld et pectore griseo-albis maculis nigris guttatis; abdomine lateribusque albis guttis nigris parvis adspersis; pedibus brunneis; mandibuld superiore gricescente, inferiore fusco.

Long. tot., 65 unc.; rostri, 1; alæ, 3; caudæ, 3; tarsi, 1.

Hab. Mexico.

Mr. Gould also proposed a new genus in the group of Wrens, under the name of Scytalopus, and which he characterized as follows:

Genus Scytalopus.

Rostrum capite brevius, compressum, obtusum leviter recurvum. Nares basales, membranâ tectæ.

Alæ concavæ, breves, rotundatæ, remige prima abbreviata, tertia, quarta, quinta et sexta æqualibus.

Cauda brevis, rotundata, (pennis externis brevissimis,) laxa.

Tarsi elongati, atque robusti, antrorsum scutellis tecti; posterius fasciis angustis cincti, squamis serpentum abdominalibus, haud dissimilibus; halluce elongato et robusto; ungue elongato; digitum anteriorum, medio elongato et gracili.

Scytalopus fuscus. Scy. corpore toto fuliginoso-nigro; capitis plumis nonnunquam argentato-griseis; rostro nigro; pedibus brunneis.

Long. tot., $2\frac{\pi}{4}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, $1\frac{\pi}{8}$; caudæ, $1\frac{\pi}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{\pi}{8}$.

Hab. in Fretu Magellanico, Chili, &c.

Hoc genus ad illud in quo Troglodytes veræ amplectuntur maximam affinitatem demonstrat.

SCYTALOPUS ALBOGULARIS. Scy. capite cœruleo-nigro; corpore superiore ferrugineo-brunneo, lined transversali nigrd; caudd pallide rufo-brunned; guld, pectore, abdomineque intermedio albis, lateribus et crisco pallido ferrugineis lined transversali nigrd; mandibuld superiore nigrd brunned; pedibus brunneis.

Long. tot., 3\frac{3}{4} unc.; rostri, \frac{5}{6}; alæ, 1\frac{1}{4}; caudæ, 1\frac{1}{6}; tarsi, \frac{5}{4}.

Heb in Brosilia

Hab. in Brasilia.

October 25, 1836.

Dr. Bostock in the Chair.

Two skulls of the *Orang-Utan* of Borneo, and a skin, including the *cranium*, of an immature *Orang-Utan* of Sumatra, were exhibited. They were transmitted to England by Dr. W. Montgomerie of Singapore, with a statement that the young Sumatran *Orang* had died in that gentleman's possession soon after having acquired additional grinders.

Mr. Owen availed himself of the occasion to make the following

observations on each of the above specimens.

He stated that the skin of the young Sumatran Orang agreed in the rufous colour, texture, disposition, and direction of the hair, with the adult female Sumatran Orang, presented to the Zoological Society by Sir Stamford Raffles; like that specimen also, it had no nail on the hallux or thumb of the hinder hands. The posterior molares on each side of each jaw correspond to the first permanent molares of the adult; the rest of the teeth consisted of the 8 deciduous bicuspides, the 4 small deciduous canini, and the 8 deciduous incisores. This state of the dentition was similar to that of the human child at the 7th year; but it would be unsafe to infer from this circumstance that the age of the Orang corresponded: it being more probable, from the characteristic duration of the immature state in the human species, that the shedding of the teeth takes place at a later period than in the Orang.

Of the two crania of the Bornean Orangs, one differed materially from the other in size and in the development of the cranial ridges. The larger specimen before the Society, closely resembled the cranium of the Bornean Pongo or adult Orang in the Museum of the College of Surgeons, and differed, in precisely the same respects as that specimen, from the cranium of the Pongo (supposed to be Sumatran) in the possession of Mr. Cross, described and figured in the 1st volume of the Society's Transactions, (p. 380. Pl. 53), which induced Mr. Owen to entertain more strongly his original suspicion, that that cranium belonged to an Orang specifically distinct from the great Bornean species (Simia Wurmbii, Fischer). With respect to the differences alluded to, he stated that the cranium of the great Bornean Orang was characterized by the more oblique plane of the orbits, and consequently the straightness of the contour of the skull between the forehead or glabella and the incisor teeth; the external boundaries of the orbit were broad and had a rough irregular surface, probably in consequence of the development of the callous protuberances which characterize the sides of the face in the adult males of this species. The symphysis of the lower jaw was also proportionally deeper than in the (supposed) Sumatran Pongo. The cranium

of that animal in the possession of Mr. Cross, Mr. Owen regarded as being that of a male individual from its size and from the deve-

lopment of the cranial ridges.

The sexual peculiarities observable in the cranium of both the Bornean and Sumatran Pongos are well marked, and are exemplified, first in a difference of relative size, that of the female being about th smaller; secondly, in a much smaller development of the cranial ridges; and thirdly, in the symphysis menti being of less depth, the cranium of the female approaching in these respects, according to the usual law of sexual development, towards the characters of the immature animal. The smaller of the crania of the two Bornsan Orangs, Mr. Owen regarded as indicative of a species of Simia, Eral., equally distinct from the great Pongo of Borneo (Simia Wurmbil, Fischer, Synopsis Mammalium, p. 32, No. 43), and from the Orang of Sumatra (Simia Abelii, Fischer, ibid. p. 10, No. 2*); and whilst regretting that his conclusion as to the specific distinction of the smaller Orang, (which, cateris paribus, must be at least one third less than either of the two preceding Orange) necessarily reposed on a comparison of the cranium alone, he at the same time observed that, as the cranium in question was in every respect entire, and with the series of teeth complete, it served to establish that deduction on the sound basis of dental and osteological characters.

Mr. Owen therefore proposed to designate the lesser Orang of Borneo, Simia Morio, and proceeded to describe the cranium as fol-

lows:

"The size and form of the cranium of the Simia Morio at first suggests the idea of its being an intermediate stage of growth between the young and adult Simia Satyrus, or Pongo; but this is disproved by comparison of the teeth of S. Morio, with the permanent teeth in the adult Pongo, and with the deciduous ones in the young Simia Satyrus, as well as with the germs of the permanent teeth concealed in the jaws of the latter. For while the teeth of S. Morio are much larger than the deciduous teeth of the young S. Satyrus, they have different relative sizes one to another from those which are observed in the permanent teeth of the full-grown: the molares and bicuspides of the S. Morio being smaller, the canini much smaller, while the upper incisores have nearly, and the lower incisores fully, the same dimensions as those of the great Pongo.

"The teeth in the jaws of a quadrumanous cranium may be known to belong to the permanent series, by the absence of the forumins, which, in an immature cranium, are situated behind the deciduous teeth, and which lead to the cavities containing the crowns of the permanent teeth. This character is very conspicuous on comparing the cranium of Simia Morio with that of a young Simia Satyrus, in which the deciduous series are present, together with the first permanent molares. The deciduous teeth in the young Orang, besides their smaller size, are more or less protruded from their sockets, and thrust apart from one another by the vis à tergo of their huge successors, while the teeth of S. Morio are lodged firmly in the jaws; and, with the exception of the characteristic interval between the

canines and incisors, are compactly arranged in close contiguity with each other.

"I have re-examined with much interest several crania of immature Orangs, in order to ascertain if any of these might be the young of the species in question; but they have all presented the crowns of the permanent molares of too large a size,—of a size which shows that the great Pongo, either of Wurmb or Abel, represents their adult state*. And these immature crania also indicate the condition to which they are destined to attain by the size of the orbits, which exceeds that of the orbits of the S. Morie, the eye having, like the brain, already in the young Pongos acquired its full size.

"That the cranium of the Simia Morio here described, belonged to an adult is proved by the small interval between the temporal ridges at the crown of the skull, corresponding to the extensive surface of origin of the crotophyte muscles; and by the obliteration of the intermaxillary sutures: that it belonged also to an aged individual is highly probable from the extent to which the teeth are worn down, and from the obliteration, notwithstanding the absence of interparietal and lambdoidal crests, of the sagittal and lambdoidal sur-

tures.

"The carebral portion of the skull of Simia Morie equals in size that of the Pongo, and indicates the possession of a brain at least as fully developed as in that species, while the maxillary portion is proportionally smaller; so that, as the cranium rises above the orbits, and is, like that of the Pongo, more convex on the coronal aspect than in the Chimpansee, and wants the prominent supraciliary ridge which characterizes the African Orang, it presents in the Simia Morio altogether a more anthropoid character.

"There are, however, the rudiments of the ridges which so remarkably characterize the crasium of the mature Ponge. Those which commence at the external angle of the frontal bone pass backwards, upwards, and slightly converge, but do not meet; they gradually diminish in breadth, and, after passing the coronal suture, subside to the level of the skull; they are then only traceable by a rough line, which leading parallel to the sagittal suture, and gradually bending outwards, rises again to be continued into the lam-

^{*} The permanent teeth in the Bornean and Sumatran Pongos so closely correspond in size and shape that I am unable to refer the crania of the immature Orangs which I have hitherto examined to either species exclusively from comparison of the crowns of the concealed permanent teeth; in speaking of the immature specimens of the great Pongo, I therefore use the term Simia Satyrus; in comparing the Simia Morio with the adult Pongo, I would be understood as always referring to the Bornean species, with cheek-callosities, or the Simia Wurmbii of Fischer. If the specific differences of Simia Wurmbii and Simia Abelii be admitted, the term Simia Satyrus must merge into a synonym, as having been applied indiscriminately to the young of both these large Orangs. In each case, the generic term Simia is applied in the restricted sense in which it is used by Erxleben in his Systema Regni Animalis, Svo, 1777, and with which the term Pithecus, substituted by Geoffroy for the genus of Orangs, is synonymous.

bdoidal ridges; thus circumscribing the origins of the temporal muscles. The lambdoidal and mastoid ridges are broader and more developed than in the *Chimpanzee*, but inferior in both respects to those of the *Pongo*. The inial region of the *occiput* is almost smooth, and is convex, without the mesial ridge, and strong muscular impressions observable in the *Pongo*, where a preponderating weight in front calls for the insertion of powerful muscles behind to counterbalance it.

The temporal bones join the frontal in Simia Morio as in the Troglodytes niger; but this structure occasionally is present on one or

both sides of the skull in Simia Satyrus.

The additamentum suturæ lambdoidalis is present on both sides in the S. Morio, and the beginning of the lambdoidal suture may be

faintly traced, but the remainder is obliterated.

Directing our attention to the base of the skull of S. Morio we observe the occipital foramen to be less posteriorly situated than in the Pongo, but more so than in the Chimpanzee. The plane of the foramen is also less oblique than in the Pongo. The occipital condyles are as far apart anteriorly as in the Chimpanzee. The anterior condyloid foramina are double on each side as in the Pongo: the carotid and jugular foramina open within the same depression; they are relatively further apart in the Chimpanzee: the petrous portion of the temporal bone, as in the Pongo, is relatively smaller than in the Chimpanzee, and the articular cavity, or surface for the lower jaw, forms a larger proportion of the base of the skull.

The other characters of the basis cranii correspond with those of the Pongo; and the smaller size of the meatus auditorius externus is probably associated in both species with a smaller auricle, as com-

pared with the Chimpanzee.

On the bony palate the relative position of the foramen incisivum corresponds with the development of the incisive teeth, showing the intermaxillary bones to be of larger size in the S. Morio than in the Chimpanzee: the situation of the sutures joining these bones to the maxillaries is indicated by vascular grooves, but otherwise obliterated; while in the cranium of a young Pongo of nearly the same size as that of the Simia Morio, the intermaxillary sutures still remain, corresponding to the non-development of the permanent laniaries. It will be interesting to determine at what period these sutures are obliterated in the more anthropoid Simia Morio.

The os nasi is a single narrow long triangular bone, slightly dilated at its upper end or apex, with the basal margin entire, presenting no indications of original separation into two parts, as has

been observed in skulls of the Chimpanzee.

In the contraction of the interorbital space, and the general form of the orbit and its boundaries, the Simia Morio resembles the Simia Satyrus, but the orbital cavity, as before observed, is smaller. In the plane of the orbit and straight contour of the upper jaw, the Simia Morio resembles the Borneau species of Pongo or Simia Wurmbii, rather than the Simia Abelii or Sumatran Pongo.

The orbital process of the os male is perforated in the S. Morio

as in the *Pongo*, by several large *foramina*. There is one principal and two very small infraorbital *foramina* on either side; the upper maxillary bones are relatively smaller, as compared with the other bones of the face, and especially the intermaxillaries, than in the *Pongo*; a structure which coincides with the smaller proportional development of the canine teeth. The nasal aperture has the same form as in the adult *Simia Wurmbii*, being more elongated than in the immature *Orang*.

The main and characteristic difference then between the Simia Morio and the Pongo, whether of Borneo or Sumatra, obtains in the size of the laniary or canine teeth, to the smaller development of which in the S. Morio, almost all the other differences in the cranium are subordinate or consequent. The laniary teeth, it may be observed, have little relation to the kind of food habitual to the Orange; had they been so related they would have been accompanied with a structure of the glenoid cavity fitting them, as in the true Carnivora, to retain a living prey in their gripe, till its life was extinguished or resistance effectually quelled. But the flattened surfaces on which the condyles of the lower jaw rotate are in subserviency to the flattened tuberculate molars, showing the mastication of vegetable substances to be the habitual business of the jaws, and the application of the laniaries to be occasional, and probably defensive in most cases. We perceive the utility of formidable canine teeth to the Orangs, whose stature makes them conspicuous and of easy detection to a carnivorous enemy; such weapons, in connexion with the general muscular strength of the Pongos, enable them to offer a successful defence against the Leopard, and may render them formidable opponents even to the Tiger; but in the smaller species, which we have been describing, to which concealment would be easier, the canines are of relatively smaller size, and those of the lower jaw are so placed as to be worn down by the lateral incisors of the upper jaw; they were reduced in the specimen described, to the level of the other teeth; and the points of the upper canines were also much worn. The size, forms, and proportions of the teeth which relate more immediately to the food of the Orangs, viz. the molars and incisors, show indisputably that the Simia Morio derives its sustenance from the same kind of food as the larger Orangs. The singular thickness or antero-posterior diameter of the incisors, which are worn down to a flattened surface, like molar teeth, show that they are put to rough work; and it is probable that their common use is to tear and scrape away the tough fibrous outer covering of the cocoa-nut, and, perhaps, to gnaw through the denser shell.

With respect to minor differences not noticed in the description, these may be deduced from the subjoined table of comparative admeasurements.

Table of Admeasurements.				
Table of Admicastic Congress.	Simta Morio, aduk,		Simio Wurmbii, adult male.	
Length of the skull from the vertex to the base of the occipital condyle	inch.	lin.	inch.	lin.
Length of the skull from the posterior plane of the occiput to the margin of the incisors	7	10	10	6
Length of the skull from the posterior plane of the occiput to the fronto-nasal suture	4	4	5	3
to the margin of the incisors	4	l į	5	7
Greatest lateral diameter of the skull (at the post- auditory ridges)	4	8	5	4
Smallest lateral diameter of the skull (behind the orbits)	2	4	2	9
Distance between temporal ridges	0	7	0	0
Diameter of the skull at the zygomata	5	1	6	9
Length of the zygomatic fossa	1	9	2	6
Diameter of skull taken between the outsides of the orbits	3	6	4	Ģ
Interorbital space	0	4	0	7
Transverse diameter of orbital cavity	1	8	1	6
Vertical diameter of orbital cavity	1	6	1	7
Vertical diameter of nasal aperture	1	1	1	6
Transverse diameter of nasal aperture	0	9	1	0
Interspace between infraorbital foramina	1	7	2	0
Distance between the inferior margin of the nasal bone and the inferior margin of the intermaxil-	2	5	8	8
lary bone			1	
From the anterior margin of the occipital foramen to the posterior margin of the bony palate	2	3	2	10
Length of the bony palate along the mesial suture.	3	11	4	0
From the anterior margin of the intermaxillary bones to the anterior palatal foramina }	0	10	1	\$
Breadth of the crown of the first incisor, upper jaw.	0	6	0	7
Breadth of the crown of the second incisor, upper jaw	0	31	Q	4
Breadth of the four incisors, in situ, upper jaw	1	6	1	9
Longitudinal extent of grinding surface of the molares, bicuspides included, of one side, upper	2	2	2	5
jaw	1		1	
Length of the enamelled crown of the canine tooth, upper jaw	0	Gį,	1	0
Breadth of ditto	0	5	0	9
Length of the lower jaw from the condyle to the anterior surface of the sockets of the incisors.	5	7	7	4
Length of the ramus of the lower jaw	3	4	4	71
Greatest breadth of ditto	2	ō	3	i
Interspace between the mental foramina	ī	8	2	ī
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				

Mr. H. B. Strickland read the following list of Birds noticed or obtained by him in Asia Minor, in the winter of 1835 and spring of 1836.

He stated that the winter of last year was one of unusual severity in all parts of Europe. At Smyrna, where he resided from November to February, the weather, which had been mild in the early part of December, underwent a sudden change about Christmasday. A north wind and violent storms of snow brought vast flocks of northern Birds to take shelter in Smyrna Bay. A frost of more than three weeks followed, a circumstance almost without parallel at Smyrna, which is situated close to the sea and in the low latitude of 38½°. This statement will explain the occurrence in the following list, of many Birds whose usual abode is in high northern latitudes.

In the month of February he visited Constantinople, and returned overland to Smyrna, which he reached at the end of April. A great change had now taken place in the ornithology of that neighbourhood. The spring was now at its height, and numerous summer birds had arrived, of a more exotic race than those which had been observed during the winter. Mr. Strickland was now, however, compelled to return to Europe; but the few days which passed before he left Smyrna, served to give him a taste of the rich ornithological harvest which might be reaped by a summer's residence in Asia Minor.

Of those species in the following list which have an asterisk attached, specimens had been obtained by Mr. Strickland and were exhibited.

" Vultur, Ill. Aquila, Briss. (

Two or three species of each of these families frequent the neighbourhood of Smyrna, but all my endeavours to procure specimens of these wary birds were unavailing.

*1. Falco Æsalon, Linn. Smyrna; rare.

*2. Falco Tinnunculus, Linn. Smyrna; rare.

*3. Falco tinnunculoides, Temm. Very abundant in Asia Minor during the spring. It frequents the Turkish villages, and builds in the roofs of the houses. Its mode of hovering is similar to that of the common Kestrel, but it is more gregarious in its habits than that bird.

*4. Accipiter Fringillaria, Ray. Smyrna.

- *5. Buteo vulgaris, Bechst. Smyrna.
- *6. Circus cyaneus, Flem. Smyrna.
- *7. Cirous rufus, Briss. Smyrna.
- 8. Otus brachvotus. Cuv. Smyrna.
- *9. Ulula Stredula, Selby. Smyrna. *10. Bubo maximus, Sibb. Smyrna.

- *11. Noctua nudipes, Nilss. Very common in the Levant.
- *12. Lanius minor, Linn. Smyrna, in April.
- *13. Lanius rufus, Briss. Smyrna, in April.
- *14. Lanius Collurio, Linn. Smyrna, in April.
 - 15. Turdus Merula, Linn. Smyrna.
- 16. Turdus solitarius, Linn. Frequents the rocks and hills near Smyrna.

- 17. Turdus viscivorus, Linn. Smyrna, during the winter.
- 18. Turdus pilaris, Linn. Smyrna, during the winter.
- 19. Turdus musicus, Linn. Smyrna, during the winter.
- 20. Turdus iliacus, Linn. Smyrna, during the winter.
- 21. Cinclus aquaticus, Bechst. Rivulets near Smyrna. I cite this bird with some doubt, not having been able to obtain a specimen. It is possible that the Smyrna Cinclus may be the C. Pallasii, Temm., though I am inclined to refer it to the former species.

*22. Oriolus Galbula, Linn. Smyrna, April.

*23. Saxicola Rubicola, Bechst. Winters at Smyrna.

*24. Saxicola aurita, Temm. Arrives at Smyrna in April. Its habits are similar to those of our Wheatear, and from its shy and restless motions it is very difficult to procure.

*25. Saxicola Œnanthe, Bechst. Smyrna, in April.

26. Saxicola Rubetra, Bechst. Common at Smyrna during the winter.

27. Phænicura suecica, Selby. I believe that I saw this bird near

Smyrna in April.

- *28. Phænicura Tithys, Jard. and Selb. This bird is common on the bare rocky hills near Smyrna, where it remains during the winter.
- 29. Philomela luscinia, Swains. First heard on the 5th of April at Hushak in the interior.
 - 30. Salicaria phragmitis, Selby. Seen at Smyrna in December.

31. Curruca cinerea, Bechst. Smyrna, April.

*32. Curruca melanocephala, Bechst. This delicate little bird, which is only found in the most southern parts of Europe, remains through the winter in the neighbourhood of Smyrna. It is a retired solitary bird, frequenting sheltered ravines thickly beset with various evergreen shrubs.

*33. Sylvia rufa, Temm. Shot near Smyrna in November.

*34. Sylvia brevirostris, mihi. Also killed in November near Smyrna. This species, which I believe to be new, may be thus characterized:

SYLVIA BREVIROSTRIS. Sylv. corpore suprà olivaceo brunneo, sub-

tùs albido; pedibus nigris.

Plumage closely resembling that of S. Trochilus. Above brown with a tinge of olive. A pale yellow streak over the eye. Throat and breast pale fulvous with a slight tinge of yellow; belly whitish. Inner wing-coverts of a pale yellow. Remiges: the 4th and 5th longest and equal: the 2nd equal to the 8th. Beak dusky; legs black.

Long. tot. poll. $4\frac{\pi}{4}$; rostri, $\frac{\pi}{4}$; caudæ, $2\frac{\pi}{8}$; alæ, $2\frac{\pi}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{\pi}{4}$. Differs from S. rufa in its greater size, and from S. Trochilus in

the shortness of the beak, and the dark colour of the legs.

Habitat prope Smyrnam. Hyeme occisa.

- *35. Accentor modularis, Cuv. Killed near Smyrna in the winter, but is rare.
- *36. Regulus ignicapillus, Cuv. Frequents the olive groves near Smyrna.
- *37. Troglodytes europæus, Linn. Common near Smyrna. Undistinguishable from English specimens.

- 38. Motacilla alba, Linn. Smyrna. -
- 39. Motacilla boarula, Linn. Smyrna.
- *40. Anthus pratensis, Bechst. Common at Smyrna.
- *41. Anthus aquaticus, Bechst. Killed on the coast near Smyrna.
- 42. Hirundo rustica, Linn. I believe that all the British species of Hirundinidæ frequent the Levant, but have only ascertained the above species.
- *43. Alauda arvensis, Linn. Immense flocks of this bird arrived from the northward at the commencement of the severe weather at Christmas.
 - *44. Alauda cristata, Linn. Very common.
 - *45. Alauda arborea, Linn. Smyrna; common.
 - *46. Alauda calandra, Linn. Arrived during the cold weather.
 - *47. Parus major, Linn. Smyrna.
 - *48. Parus cœruleus, Linn. Šmyrna.
 - *49. Parus lugubris, Natt. Smyrna.
 - *50. Emberiza miliaria, Linn. Common.
 - *51. Emberiza Cia, Linn. Frequents the rocky hills near Smyrna.
- *52. Emberiza Cirlus, Linn. Haunts the vicinity of streams. It seems to replace the E. citrinella, which I never noticed in Asia Minor.
- *53. Emberiza palustris, Sav. The habits of this species of Reed Bunting exactly resemble those of E. Schaniclus. The beak is rather less gibbous than in the Dalmatian specimens.
- *54. Emberiza cæsia, Cretzsch. Killed at Smyrna in April. It is frequent in Greece and in the Ionian Islands.
 - *55. Emberiza hortulana, Linn. Smyrna, April.
- *56. Emberiza cinerea, mihi. This new species is thus characterized:

EMBERIZA CINERRA. Emb. capite viridi-flavescente; corpore suprà cinerascenti, subtùs albo.

Male. Crown of the head greenish yellow, becoming cinereous at the nape. Back cinereo-fuscous with an obscure streak of brown in the middle of each feather. Rump cinereous; tail dark brown; the two lateral pairs of feathers white on the inner webs for near half their length towards the extremities.

Wings dark brown, the coverts and quills margined with whitish, the scapulars with fulvous. Chin and throat yellow, becoming greenish on the cheeks.

Breast cinereous; abdomen white, sides cinereous.

Bill dusky; legs flesh-coloured.

Long. tot. poll. 6; rostri, \(\frac{2}{3}; \) alæ, $3\frac{1}{3}; \) caudæ, <math>2\frac{\pi}{3}; \$ tarsi, $\frac{\pi}{3}$.

The beak of this species most nearly resembles that of Emberiza Cia.

Habitat in collibus juxta Smyrnam. Mense Aprili occisa.

- 57. Pyrgita domestica, Cuv. This is the common house Sparrow of the Levant.
- *58. Pyrgita hispaniolensis, Cuv. A single specimen was obtained in April at Smyrna.
 - *59. Linuria cannabina, Swains. Common.
 - 60. Carduelis elegans, Steph. Common.

*61. Fringilla Cœlebs, Linn. Very common in the Levant.

62. Fringilla Montifringilla, Linn. Occurred during the winter.

*63. Fringilla Seriaus, Linn. Gregarious during the winter. Assembles in large flocks, which chirp incessantly in a small low note.

64. Coccothraustes Chloris, Flem. Common.

65. Sturnus vulgaris, Linn. Smyrna. 66. Corvus Coras. Linn. Smyrna.

67. Corvus Corniz, Linn. Common near Smyrna.

68. Corvus Monedula, Linn. Common near Smyrna.

Oss. The common Rook was not noticed, and I do not believe that it exists in the country.

69. Pica caudata, Ray. Common in the Levant.

*70. Garrulus melanocephalus, Bonelli. This bird was first described by M. Gené in the Memoirs of the Academy of Turin, vol. xxxvii. p. 298, Pl. I., from specimens in the Turin Museum, received from Lebanon. It is common in the vicinity of Smyrna, and its note and habits are identical with those of the European Jay, whose place it supplies.

*71: Sitta syriaca, Ehrenb. Frequents the open hills near Smyrna, where it is seen climbing up the masses of rock, or perched on their summits. It never is seen on trees. The note is a loud clear

warble.

*72. Sitta europea, Linn. Inhabits the groves of aged olive trees which abound in the bottoms of the valleys. The specimens are smaller than British ones, but not otherwise distinguishable.

73. Upupa Epops, Linn. Seen at Hushak in April.

*74. Alcedo ispida, Linn. Common.

*75. Alcedo rudis, Linn. This bird may often be seen in the salt-water marshes west of Smyrna. It never seems to follow the rivers, but always remains near the coast. It sometimes hovers for several minutes, about 10 feet above the water, and then drops perpendicularly on to its prey.

76. Picus mertius, Linn. I saw a specimen of this bird in the possession of Mr. Zohrab at Broussa. It was shot in the pine forests

of Mount Olympus.

*77. Picus major, Linn. Common near Smyrna.

*78. Cuculus canorus, Lina. Smyrna, in April.

79. Phasianus colchicus, Linn. Common near Constantinople on both sides of the Bosphorus. It has probably migrated thither spontaneously from Colchis, its native country.

80. Francolinus vulgaris. Occurs in the marshes of the Hermus and the Cayster, whence it is sometimes brought to market at

Smytna.

- *81. Perdix saxatilis, Meyer. Abundant on the hills round Smyrns.
 - 82. Coturnix dactylisonans. Remains near Smyrna during winter.

83. Columba Palumbus, Linn. Smyrna. 84. Columba Ænas, Linn. Smyrna.

*85. Columba Turtur, Linn. Smyrna, in April.

*86. Columba cambayensis, Lath. This bird inhabits the Turkish burial-grounds at Smyrae and Constantinople, which are dense forests of cypress trees. It is strictly protected by the Turks, and it was

with some difficulty that I obtained a specimen. It was, perhaps, originally introduced by man, but now seems completely naturalized.

87. Otis tarda, Linn. Frequents the plains south of Smyrna. It is called wild Turkey by the European residents.

*88. Otis tetrax, Linn. Abundant during the winter in the poultry shops at Smyrna.

89. Œdicnemus crepitans, Temm. Said to occur in this part of Asia Minor.

90. Vanellus cristatus, Meyer. Appeared in vast flocks at the commencement of the cold weather.

91. Grue cineres, Bechst. A flock seen in the plain of Sardis the

end of April.

*92. Ardea Egrettu, Linn. Frequents the sea marshes west of Smyrna.

*93. Botaurus stellaris, Steph. Smyrna.

*94. Ciconia alba, Bellon. Very abundant in Turkey during summer. It swarms in every village, and is protected with the same strictness by the Turks as by the Dutch. It is said to have quite deserted Greece, since the expulsion of its Mahometan protectors.

95. Numenius arquatus, Cuv. Smytna.

96. Scolopax Rusticola, Linn. So abundant were Woodcocks at Smyrna during the severe weather, that many were killed in small gardens in the midst of the town.

97. Scolopax Gallinayo, Linn. Abund 98. Scolopax Gallinula, Linn. Smyrna. Abundant in the marshes near

*99. Tringa variabilis, Meyer. Common on the coast. *100. Tringa Temminckii, Leisl. Smyrna, in winter.

*101. Totanus Glottis, Bechst. Smyrna, in winter; rare.

102. Totanus Calidris, Bechst. Common in the marshos. 103. Totanus ochropus, Temm.

Seen on the coast. *104. Recurvirostra Avocetta, Linn. Smyrna; rare.

*105. Rallus aquaticus, Linn. Smyrna.

106. Crex pratensis, Bechst. Smyrna, in winter.

*107. Crex porzana, Bechst. Smyrna, in winter.

108. Gallinula Chloropus, Lath. Smyrna, in winter.

109. Fulica atra, Linn. Smyrna in winter.

*110. Glareola torquata, Meyer. A pair of these birds were brought

to me at Smyrna in April.

*111. Podiceps cristatus, Lath. The young of this bird is abundant in the harbour at Constantinople, where, in common with all other

waterfowl, it is strictly protected.

*112. Puffinus Anglorum, Ray. Flocks of this bird are constantly seen flying up and down the Bosphorus. They are rarely seen to alight, and from their unceasing restlessness, the Franks of Pera have given them the name of omes damnées. I am not aware that this bird has before been noticed in the southern parts of Europe. *113. Larus ridibundus, Linn.

*114. Larus argentatus, Brunn. These two species of Gull frequent the Golden Horn at Constantinople, where they are so tame that they may easily be struck with an oar.

115. Pelecanus Onocrotalus, Linn. Frequents the marshes near Smyrna, where it remains during the winter.

*116. Phalacrocorax Carbo, Briss. Abounds in the harbour of Constantinople, and roosts on the roofs of the houses.

*117. Phalacrocorax pygmæus, Briss. Shot near Smyrna in winter.

118. Cygnus Olor, Linn. Visited Smyrna Bay in the winter.

119. Clangula vulgaris, Leach. Smyrna, during the winter.

120. Fuligula ferina, Steph. Smyrna, during the winter. 121. Fuligula cristata, Steph. Smyrna, during the winter.

*122. Rhynchapsis clypeata, Shaw. Smyrna, during the winter.

123. Tadorna Vulpanser, Flem. Smyrna, during the winter.

124. Querquedula acuta, Selby. Smyrna, during the winter.

125. Anas Boschas, Linn. Smyrna, during the winter.

126. Mareca Penelope, Selby. Smyrna, during the winter.

127. Tadorna Rutila, Steph. Frequent in the poultry shops at Smyrna, but owing to the Turkish practice of cutting the throats of birds as soon as shot, I was unable to obtain a perfect specimen.

128. Querquedula Crecca, Steph. Smyrna, in the winter. *129. Mergus albellus, Linn. Smyrna, in the winter."

Mr. Strickland also exhibited the skin of a variety of the common Fox, Canis Vulpes, Linn., which occurs near Smyrna: together with a specimen of the Lepus hybridus, Pall., from the South of Russia, purchased of a furrier at Rome.

Also a specimen of an Argonauta, Linn., which was brought to him in Cephalonia with the animal alive in it. Mr. Strickland stated that he kept it for some hours alive, and when dead it fell out of the shell with its own weight; proving that there is no muscular connexion between the animal and the shell. In this instance the shell did not contain any ova.

Mr. Ogilby called the attention of the Society to two Antelopes at present living in the Gardens, which he regarded as the Koba and Kob of Buffon. He expressed his pleasure at having it in his power to identify two animals originally described imperfectly, and of which the zoological characters have been hitherto almost unknown; observing that the re-discovery of an old species was at all times more gratifying to him, and, he considered, more beneficial to the science of zoology, than the original description of twenty that were new; because, whilst it equally added an authentic species to the substantive amount of our knowledge, it had the further merit of dispelling the many doubts and surmizes which unavoidably obscured the subject. Mr. Ogilby entered at some length into the identification of these two interesting species, referring to the scanty materials afforded by the original descriptions of Buffon and Daubenton, and pointing out the various other Ruminants with which subsequent naturalists had confounded them; at the same time reserving his more detailed demonstration of this subject, and his descriptions of the animals themselves, for the monograph which he has been long preparing for the Transactions of the Society. Among other errors, he pointed out that the Koba of Pennant (A. Senegalensis) was the Caama;

and that the Korrigum of Denham and Clapperton's Travels, identified with A. Senegalensis by Mr. Children and Colonel Smith, was a very distinct animal from the Koba, and even belonged to a different natural genus. It has horns in the female sex and lachrymal sinuses, both of which characters are absent in the Koba: he therefore proposed to distinguish the Bornou animal by the specific name of A. Korrigum. The same observation applies to the two species which Colonel H. Smith has described under the names of A. Adenote and A. Forfex, and which he identified with the Kob and Gambian Antelope respectively; both these animals had lachrymal sinuses. whereas, both Buffon and the more accurate Daubenton, expressly declare that the Kob is without this character. The animals in the Gardens, however, corresponded in all respects with the original descriptions; their comparative size, their colour, their habitat, their zoological characters, as far as they were reported, and, in the case of the Koba, even the name, were identical; and it therefore gave him peculiar satisfaction to be able to congratulate the Society on the possession of two of the rarest and most interesting Antelopes ever brought together. He observed, in conclusion, that the female of the Kob had been observed by him six or eight months ago in the Surrey Zoological Gardens, but that he had only recognised its identity with Buffon's animal on the arrival of the fine male speci-

men at present belonging to the Society.

Mr. Ogilby afterwards exhibited the skin of a Fox from the Himalayan mountains, which he has described in the Zoological Part of Mr. Royle's "Flora Himalaica," under the name of Canis Himalaicus. This animal, of which Mr. Ogilby stated that he had examined three skins, two belonging to the Zoological Society, and one procured by Mr. Royle at Mussooree, (the two former in their summer, the latter in its winter dress,) appears to be rare in Nepaul, since Mr. Hodgson has never been able to procure a specimen, but contents himself with indicating its existence (vide Proceed. Zool. Soc. II. 97); it is not uncommon, however, in the Doon, in Kumaon, and the more western and elevated parts of the Mountains, where it is called the hill Fox by the Europeans, and greatly admired for the beauty of its form, and the brilliancy and variety of its colours. The whole length to the origin of the tail is 2 feet 6 inches; that of the tail, 1 foot 6 inches; that of the ears, 4 inches; and the height may be about 1 foot 4 or 5 inches. The animal agrees with the common European and American Foxes, (C. Vulpes and C. fulvus,) in the black marks on the backs of the ears, and in front of the hind and fore legs. The coat consists of long close rich fur, as fine as that of any of the American varieties, and of infinitely more brilliant and varied colours. It consists of two sorts of hair, an interior of a very fine cottony texture, and an external of a long silky nature, but perfectly pliant, and, like the fur of the Sable, lying almost equally smooth in any direction. The inner fur is of a smoky blue or brown colour along the back, as is likewise the basal half of the outer silky hair, which, up to this point, is of the same soft cottony texture as the interior fur; it then assumes its harsher silky character, is marked with a broad

whitish vellow ring, and terminated by a long point of a deep bay colour. Hence, along the whole upper surface of the head, neck, and back, the uniform colour is unmixed deep and brilliant red. On the sides of the neck, on the throat, ribs and flanks, is pure white, changing to light smoky blue on the last-named parts. The outer hair of the hips and thighs is tipt with grey instead of red, which gives these parts a hoary appearance, and this colour predominates on all the upper parts of the Society's two specimens, in which the fur is moreover much shorter and coarser, and the colours less brilliant and varied than in Mr. Royle's. The whole under surface of the body is of a smoky brown colour, without any intermixture of long silky hairs. The external colours of the body are, therefore, bright bay on the back, yellowish red on the sides of the body, white on the sides of the neck, hoary grey on the hips, and smoky brown on the throat, breast, and belly. The ears are pretty large and elliptical, their outer surface black; a stripe of the same colour runs down the front of the legs, both fore and hind; the soles of the feet are thickly covered with hair of a yellowish brown colour, except the balls of the toes, which are naked. The brush is large and well finished, of the same colour as the body throughout the greater part of its length, and terminated by a large white point.

Mr. Gray related a series of facts in reference to the habits of a Cuckoo, which appeared to prove that the female, though she leaves the eggs to be hatched by another bird, sometimes at least takes care of the young bird and feeds it after it leaves its nest, and teaches it to fly. They may explain how they are taught to migrate.

He also expressed some doubt respecting the eggs of Cuckoos being laid in the nest of Granivorous birds, and stated an instance where a chicken had been hatched under a Pigeon, that the Pigeon neglected it when it found that it would not eat the soaked peas, and

eventually ejected it from its nest.

Mr. Gray then exhibited and explained a peculiarity in the structure of the ligaments of bivalve shells, and pointed out the peculiarity of some mactraceous shells which had this part, contrary to the general structures, inclosed in the cartilage pit, observing that this structure was found in his genus *Gnathodon*, and in a new genus, which Mr. Gray had called at the British Museum *Mulinia*, of which he described five species; and he also stated the necessity for forming a new genus, of which *Mactra Sprengleri* may be regarded as the type.

Mr. Harvey, of Teignmouth, exhibited various fossils from Devonshire. Of these, sections in different directions had been made, and the surfaces highly polished. The structure was thus rendered beautifully apparent.

Mr. Harvey also exhibited various specimens of Asterias and Ophiura from the Devonshire coast, and explained the mode by which they

had been prepared.

Mr. Gould brought under the notice of the Mceting several spe-

cies of Birds from New South Wales, which he considered to be new to science, as they are not contained in the collection of the Linnean Society; nor, as far as he is aware, described in any publication. Mr. Gould embraced this opportunity to characterize and name ten species, and stated that at subsequent meetings of the Society he would bring forward the remainder of his collection.

Mr. Gould more particularly pointed out a species of Petroica; a new and interesting species of Ptilonorhynchus, allied to Ptil. nuchalis, and which he proposed to make the type of a new genus; a new species (belonging to the Society) of the genus Calyptorhynchus, which he compared with all the other members of the group then on the table, and described as Calyptorhynchus Naso; and four new species of the genus Amadina, Swains., which he named Amadina cincta, ruficauda, modesta, and Castanotis. The characters of the above species are as follows:

Petroica phonicea. Mas. Pet. corpore supernè fuliginoso-griseo fronte, naribus, marginibusque anterioribus remigum tertialium albo notatis; remigibus primariis rectricibusque griseo-nigris, harum externis plumis penitus albis, guld fuliginosa; corpore subtùs coccineo; crisso albo; rostro pedibusque nigris.

Fcm. Corpore supernè toto brunneo, tectricibus alæ rufo-griseo emarginatis; rectricibus externis albis corpore subtùs rufescenti-

griseis; rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tot. $5\frac{1}{8}$ unc.; $rostri, \frac{1}{2}$; $ala, 3\frac{1}{8}$; cauda, 2; $tarsi, \frac{\pi}{4}$. Hab. Novâ Hollandiâ.

AMADINA CASTANOTIS. Am. corpore superne cinereo-fusco; uropygio albo, tectricibus caudæ nigris, albo guttatis; genis castaneorufis lined albd ad basin rostri; pectore griseo lineis nigris transversim striato; notd nigrd in medio pectoris; abdomine albo, crisso ochraceo, lateribus castaneis albo guttatis; rostro aurantiaco; pedibus subflavis.

Long. tot. $4\frac{1}{8}$ unc.; $al\alpha$, $2\frac{1}{8}$; $caud\alpha$, $1\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Novâ Hollandiâ.

AMADINA MODESTA. Ama. fronte sanguinolentá; corpore superiore fusco; alis albo-guttatis; uropygio crissoque alternatim striatis lineis albis atque fuscis; rectricibus nigris, duabus lateralibus externis ad apicem albo notatis; gulá nigrá; corporis inferiore parte cinereo-albido lineis transversis fuscis striato, abdomine intermedio crissoque albis; rostro nigro, pedibus nigrescentibus.

Long. tot. 4½ unc.; alæ, 2½; caudæ, 2; tarsi, ½. Hub. in Novâ Hollandiâ.

AMADINA CINCTA. Ama. capite toto argentato cinereo; guld nigrd; corpore toto pallide castaneo; fasciá nigrd corporis inferiorem partem cingente; tectricibus caudæ superioribus et inferioribus albis; caudd nigrá; rostro nigro; pedibus brunneis.

Long. tot. $4\frac{1}{2}$ unc.; alx, $2\frac{3}{6}$; caudx, $2\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{5}{8}$. Hab. in Novâ Hollandiâ.

AMADINA NUVICAUDA. Mas. Ama. fronte genisque coccineis his albo striatis; corpore supernè olivaceo-fusco; tectricibus cauda caudaque fusco-coccineis, illis guttis pallido-rubris ornatis; guld corporeque infernè olivaceis, griseis, albo transversim notatis, abdomine intermedio crissoque flavidi-albis; rostro coccineo; pedibus pallidi-brunneis.

Fæm., vel mas junior. Corpore toto cinereo fusco, abdomine interme-

dio albo; caudd rufescente-brunned.

Long. tot. 41 unc.; alæ, 21; caudæ, 15; tarsi, 8.

Hab. in Nova Hollandia.

CALODERA MACULATA. Cal. capite suprà auricularibus, et guld nitidè brunneis, scapuld plumd cinereo-argentato cincta; fascid nuchali rosaced; corpore supernè caudaque intensè brunneis; apicibus plumarum in dorso, uropygio, scapulisque, fulvo largè guttatis; remigibus albidis; rectricibus flavido-albis, ad opicem notatis; corpore subtùs cinereo; lateribus transversaliter brunneo striatis; rostro pedibus fusco brunneis.

Long. tot. 114 unc.; rostri, 14; alæ, 6; caudæ, 43; tarsi, 15.

Hab. in Novâ Hollandiâ.

Differt à Ptilonorhyncho suchale, Jard., magnitudine inferiore, nec non maculis supernè sparsis.

CRACTICUS HYPOLEUCUS. Cract. nuchd, dorso, tectricibus caudæ, crisso, rectricibusque caudæ ad basin, albis, reliquis partibus nigris, rostro ad basin plumbeo in nigrum transeunte.

Long. tot. 14\frac{1}{2} unc.; rostri, 2; ala, $9\frac{\pi}{2}$; cauda, $5\frac{\pi}{2}$; tarsi, 2.

Hab. Van Diemen's Land.

Differt à specie Cracticus Tibicen appellată, rostro et tarsi brevioribus, æque ac dorsi albo colore.

Hab. in Terra Van Diemen dicta.

CRACTICUS FULIGINOSUS. Cract. corpore toto fuliginoso; remigiis, rectricibusque caudæ ad apicem albis; rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tot. 18 unc.; rostri, 2½; alæ, 10; caudæ, 7; tarsi, 2½.

Hab. in Terrà Van Diemen dictà.

CALYPTORHYNCHUS NASO. Mas. Calyp. capitis cristd, et toto corpore nitide nigris, rectricibus caudæ duabus intermediis exceptis; fascid late coccined cinctis; rostro prægrandi ad basin pallide plumbeo; pedibus cæruleo nigris.

Fæm. Differt crista genis corpore supernè guttis flavis adspersis; corpore inferiore transversis lineis coccineis atque flavis ornato; fascia caudali coccined, lineis nigris interrupta, rostro albo.

Long. tot. 22 unc.; mensura rostri verticalis, 2\frac{1}{2} unc.; ala, 14 cauda, 10\frac{1}{4}; tarsi, \frac{1}{4}.

Hab. in Novâ Hollandiâ, ad fluminem Cygnorum.

Calyptorkynchus Naso differt à reliquis generis speciebus rostri magnitudine, sed corporis magnitudine præter unam omnibus inferiore.

November 8, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

A letter, addressed to the Secretary, by Robert Mackay, Esq., the British Vice-Consul at Maracaibo, and a Corresponding Member of the Society, was read, describing the habits of a *Vulture (Vultur Papa*, Linn.) forwarded to the Society for the Menagerie, but which had unfortunately died during the voyage.

After noticing the peculiar habit attributed to these birds, (which frequently congregate to the number of three hundred,) of paying deference to an individual differing from the rest in plumage, and to which the inhabitants of Maracaibo give the title of king, Mr. Mac-

kay proceeds to state:

"These birds, in their flights, ascend to such a height as to be lost sight of, and from their elevation, discover objects of prey.

"They reside in the savannas of a warm and dry temperature; and their travels do not extend beyond five or six leagues of the place where they have been bred.

"They lay their eggs, and hatch their young, in the small con-

cavities of mountains.

"At a distance from towns, villages, and frequented roads, they generally assemble in large numbers; but in the immediate vicinity of such situations the king never deigns to associate with his vassals."

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. W. Martin read the follow-

ing description of a new species of the genus Felis.

"The beautiful species of Felis to which I beg leave to call the attention of the Meeting was brought from Java or Sumatra, and obtained, with other specimens from the same locality, from Mr. Gould. The only writer, as far as I can learn, who notices it, is Sir W. Jardine in the 'Naturalist's Library,' in which work are two figures from specimens in the Edinburgh Museum; but he there confounds it with the Felis Diardi of Cuvier, to which species, as indeed also to the Felis Bengalensis, it bears a close affinity in the style and colour of its markings. It will be easy, however, to show that the Felis Diardi is a very different species to the present. first description of the F. Diardi is in the fourth volume of Cuvier's Ossemens Fossiles, p. 437. 'There is,' says Cuvier, 'in Java another wild Cat larger than Felis Bengalensis, very remarkable for the beautiful regularity of its blotches, of which Messrs. Diard and Duvaucel have transmitted to us a skin and a drawing. We shall designate it Felis Diardi.' After describing its colour, he adds, 'The head is six inches, the tail 2 feet 4 inches, the body 2 feet and a half, and its height at the shoulder must be 18 inches.' (French measures.) With regard to the Felis Diardi, it is somewhat questionable whether it be distinct from the Felis macrocelis, or not; at all events No. XLVII.—Proceedings of the Zoological Society.

it is a large Cat closely allied to, if not identical with that animal, but certainly distinct from the Cat before the Meeting.

"The admeasurements of this species are as follows:

		Inches
Head and body	1	11
Head from nose to occiput, following the arch of the skull	0	5 <u>1</u>
Tail	1	31
Height at shoulder	0	10į
Total length	3	2į

"It may be observed, that the individual is adult, as proved by the state of the dentition; its colouring agrees closely with that detailed by Sir W. Jardine. The ground tint is rusty grey the rufous tinge prevailing on the top of the head down the middle of the back, over the cheeks, chest, scapule, fore limbs, and thighs. On the top of the head are two longitudinal markings of black inclosing a space cut up by irregular small rings or dashes of black, and external to these begin two decided black lines (commencing over each eye), which become broader on the occiput and back of the neck, on which latter part they converge, but do not come in contact with each other; they then sweep over the top of each shoulder blending with the markings of the body.

"Continued from the first-described central markings on the head, there runs between these two decided stripes a broken line, assuming between the shoulders the form of clonguized open spots, and ultimately a black dorsal stripe continued to the base of the tail; on the handless, however, it divides into two parallel stripes. The cars are short and somewhat rounded, black at the tips, grey in the centre, and black at and around their base; beyond the black mark at their base, there is a space of dusky grey, which merges into the colour of the neck. The sides of the neck, sompule, fore and hind limbs, are thickly sported with black. The sides of the body are markled with obliquely longitudinal marks of dusk grey, each mark having an irregular margin of black.

The lower angle of each eye is black, and two black lines cross the cheek, passing into a throat-mark carried arrows beautiff the angle of the lower iaw: below this is a similar mark but more indefinite; the chest is spotted with black. The abdomen is duty white which is crossed by rows of black spots in regular order. The upper sandare of the tail is grey, the lower vellowish grey; it is marbled by spots of black forming indistinct rings, which, towards the tip, assume a more definite character, the extremity being black. The far of the both is moderate and sheek on the tail, it is full and soft.

"For this boantiful species at Car I wenture to propose the title of Polic moreovers. Though inferior in size to the Felix moreovers, this appears is reduced to it, not only in the strip of the markings of the fire but in the elongation of its form, and the length and thickness of the tail it is a Roman One or in miniature, not, though larger than the Folic Remontures is it less allocate to that species, between a bod and the to mee it constitutes an intermediate grade."

November 22, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

A communication from Mr. Harvey, of Teignmouth, in Devonshire, was read, which referred to a specimen of the electric Ray then on the table. The fish was caught in a trawl-net near Teignmouth, and was presented to the Society by Mr. Harvey. When taken, part of a specimen of the small spotted Dogfish was hanging from its mouth. The fishermen handle the electric Ray while it is alive without being at all affected by it, always taking care to lay hold of the tail.

Mr. Yarrell exhibited a very large Carp taken by a net in a piece of water called the Mere, neare Payne's Hill, in Surrey. The length of the specimen was 30 inches, the girth of the body at the commencement of the dorsal fin 24 inches; the weight, 22 pounds. The fish belonged to Edward Jesse, Esq., author of the "Gleanings in Natural History," by whose permission it was exhibited. Mr. Yarrell observed, that he could find no record of any Carp so large having before been taken in this country.

Mr. Martin, at the request of the Chairman, read the following notes on the anatomy of Koala, Phascolarctos fuscus, Desm.

"The acquisition of a young male Koala preserved in spirits, and presented to the Society by Captain Mallard, has afforded me the opportunity of examining the viscera of this rare and curious animal; which I did with the utmost care. Differing from the Wombat in its dental formula, in which respect it closely resembles the Kangaroos, the visceral anatomy of the Koala closely approximates to that of the former animal, as will be perceived by comparing the following notes with the description of the anatomy of the Wombat by Mr. Owen.

"On reflecting the skin of the abdomen, there appeared a small transverse muscle arising from the skin on either side, which passed over the marsupial bones, towards their upper extremity, acting as

a support to, and a compressor of them.

"The pyramidalis muscle, to which, on its outer side is attached the inner edge of the marsupial bone, radiated from this bone to the middle line, and sent off a broad fascia of fibres over the rectus muscle to the cartilages of the ribs. The rectus began broad from the cartilages of the lower ribs, its fibres appearing to mix with those of the pectoralis; it continued its course broad to the pubis, and was inserted in the usual manner. The external oblique was thick and

its fibres remarkably strong; the internal oblique gave off a strong cremaster, which ran down the spermatic cord as far as the testis.

" The transversalis as usual.

"The first head of the triceps adductor femoris was connected by a slip of fibres to the external apex of the triangular base of the marsupial bone, giving to that bone, by its contraction, a slight external motion.

"The panniculus carnosus was very strong, especially over the back and sides.

"The capacity of the thorax was very small in comparison with that of the abdomen.

"The stomach occupied the left side of the abdominal cavity, scarcely passing the mesial line; its pyloric portion bent down abruptly, forming a narrow arch through which protruded the lo-

bulus Spigelii of the liver.

"The liver consisted of two equal parts, a right and left, both closely attached by membranous (or peritoneal) processes to the diaphragm; the ligamentum latum verged towards the left side. The right portion of the liver was divided into three foliaceous lobes, the left into two: the free edges of this viscus were deeply and abruptly fissured, as if cut with a knife; and its under surface presented an irregular congeries of small lobuli or appendages, clustered thickly together; on the left side, the outer lobe of the liver passed completely behind or dorsad of the stomach, the cardiac portion of which advanced as low as the left kidney. The outer lobe of the liver on the right side advanced in a pointed form, and passed behind the whole of the dorsal surface of the right kidney. The great mass of the liver had, in fact, a dorsad position, the anterior portion being comparatively very trifling.

"The gall-bladder was seated in the fissure between the first and second lobes, reckoning from the right side; it was very large, but empty. Of great width at its base, it narrowed gradually to an almost vermiform apex, and its total length was 3½ inches. Its duct, of considerable calibre, terminated exactly one inch below the py-

lorus.

"The spleen was long, thin, and tongue-shaped; it lay loosely adhering to the *cardium*; its greatest breadth was $\frac{1}{6}$ an inch, its length, $2\frac{1}{6}$ inches; its edges were very thin and slightly crenulated.

The pancreas presented a thin, flat portion, attached to the spleen, whence ran a broad slip attached to the peritoneal reflection at the back of the stomach, and advancing round to the duodenum. Its duct joined that of the gall-bladder 3 of an inch from its insertion.

"The stomach was divided by a contraction, into two distinct portions; of these, the cardiac was large and almost globular, its breadth across being 2, its length across $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches; its parietes were much thinner than those of the pyloric portion, which, as we stated, bent down abruptly, so as to form a narrow arch. The breadth of the pylorus at its commencement, was little more than an inch, but

swelled out into a sacculus, whence it narrowed to the pyloric

Following its greater curve it measured 21 inches, along its smaller, only \(\frac{5}{4} \) of an inch. It was slightly puckered transversely on the sides by a posterior longitudinal band of fibres. Anterior to the entrance of the asophagus, and occupying the space of the smaller curvature of the stomach, between the asophagus and the contraction, was situated a large thick gland, opening by numerous ducts, whose mouths clustered together, formed a sort of network. On each side of this gland the inner membrane of the stomach was longitudinally corrugated with small ruge, whence larger plice, and more distinct from each other, were continued down the inner surface of the pylorus, to its orifice, which was closed with a strong sphincter-valve; the cardiac pouch was lined with a thin smooth cuticular membrane. The duodenum began pyriform with a small sacculus \{ of an inch in breadth, whence it narrowed to § of an inch; this being its average breadth. Its course was as follows: Leaving the pylorus, and bound to the spine by mesentery, it advanced over the right kidney, then crossed the spine, turned up on the left side under the cardiac portion of the stomach, and merged into jejunum. The whole of the inner membrane of the small intestines exhibited a beautiful velvety

"The cacum was of enormous magnitude, and slightly puckered equidistantly or nearly so throughout its whole length into sacculi, by a slight longitudinal (mesenteric) band of muscular fibres; there appeared also, faint traces of an opposite band. Turning spirally on itself and beginning large, it gradually narrowed, the decrease of its last portion, for the length of 18 inches, being very marked; this portion running to a long vermiform point. The total length of the cæcum was 4 feet 2 inches. Basal breadth, 2 inches. colon, resembling in character the first portion of the cacum, was slightly contracted into large sacculi, the first sacculus just below the entrance of the ileum, being more decided and larger than those which succeed; it was, however, nothing more than a simple enlargement, without any pyramid figure. After a course of 17 inches, the colon decreased in size to the breadth of a of an inch; the total length of the large intestines was 6 feet 4 inches. The inner membrane of the rectum was corrugated longitudinally.

"The lungs consisted of 3 right lobes, one large, and two small;

and of two left lobes, the lower by far the largest.

"The heart was compressed and pointed; its length was two inches.

"The aorta gave off as usual 3 branches for the supply of the anterior portion of the body. The first or arteria innominata, however, almost immediately divided into carotid and subclavian. The right auricle presented at its upper part a semilunar notch fitting to the base of the aorta, two points rising up, one on each side of the aorta, as auricular appendages. Into the upper part of the auricle just behind the right appendix entered the right vena cava superior; and into the inferior portion of the auricle close to the entrance of the vena cava inferior, entered the left vena cava superior. The vena azygos running up on the left side of the aorta, entered the left vena

cause superior an inch from its termination. This arrangement of the vense cause appears to be normal in the Marsupials, as Mr. Owen has previously observed*.

"Six coronary veins entered the right auricle round its junctional

margin with the ventricle.

"The nuriculo-ventricular opening on the right was of moderate aire, with a simple valve, the edges of which were bound down by the tendons of two distinct curses columns; a third fasciculus of fleshy three, but very indistinct, were to the right of these, but they could hardly be said to constitute a third curses columns. The right rentricle does not approach the uper of the heart by $\frac{3}{5}$ of an inch. No trace of farames ocale. Pulmonary artery very wide, dividing after a course of $\frac{1}{5}$ an inch in two branches, a right and left. Right rentricle very thin; the left, very thick and firm.

"(W the kidneys, the right was seated higher, nearly by its whole length, than the left; the lower end of the former and the upper end of the latter being parallel. In shape, these organs were oval, and but slightly compressed. Their pelvis was small, the papille single and obtains; the cortical and cinerations layers very distinct. Length,

If of an moh; breadth, I of an inch.

"The proving of small size and conical figure, was placed immediately anterior to the area; it was slightly historize, or rather had two providing popular, one on each side of the wethral crifice. Longeth of springer precion, if of an inch. Bladder small, oval, and much continued. These of the size of a househour. Total length of man accordingly inches; their entrance was below and external twith moving which opened as assue. Present small. Festivate moving small that entrance is a sure.

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seated near its base. Length altogether 2 inches. Breadth & an inch. Length of free part & of an inch. The palate was divided by elevated transverse ridges into 8 furrows.

"Pharyax spacious, and lined with a corrugated membrane. Esophagus narrow, its inner membrane being puckered longitudi-

nally.

"The anterior surface of the thyroid cartilage was regularly convex, but not so protuberant as in the phalangers; nor did the os hyoides play freely over it."

Mr. Edward Burton, of Fort Pitt, Chatham, communicated a description of a small species of *Pipra* received from the Himalaya mountains, and considered by Mr. Burton to be the first species of this genus yet discovered in those regions.

Genus PIPRA, Linn.

P. squalida, capite et cervice suprà brunneis; interscapulio, dorso, alis et cauda viridescenti-brunneis; hac ad regionem subapicalem brunned saturatiori, sed apice externo albo gracilitèr fimbriata; alarum caudæque pogoniis externis olivaceo leviter tinctis; corpore infrà ubique albido.

Mandibula superior fusca, inferior albida apice fusco. Pedes nigri.

Longitudo 31 poll. Alæ caudam æquantes.

Hab. apud Montes Himalayenses.

In Museo Medico-Militari, Chatham.

The following observations on a species of Glaucus, referred to the Glaucus hexapterygius, Cuvier, by George Bennett, Esq., F.L.S., Corresponding Member of the Zoological Society, Surgeon and Superintendent of the Australian Museum at Sydney, New South Wales, were read.

"On the 20th of April, 1835, during a voyage from England to Sydney, New South Wales, in latitude 4° 26' N., and longitude 19° 30' W., with light airs and calms prevailing at the time, about 3 P.M., a number of damaged and perfect specimens of the Glaucus hexapterygius, Cuv., were caught in the towing net. On being immediately removed from the net and placed in a glass of sea water, they resumed their vital actions and floated about in the liquid element, exhibiting a brilliancy of colour and peculiarity of form, which did not fail to excite the admiration of the beholders.

"The back of the animal, as well as the upper surface of the fins and digitated processes, and the upper portion of the head and tail, was of a vivid purple colour, varying occasionally in its intensity; appearing brighter in colour when the animal was active or excited, and deeper when remaining floating tranquilly upon the surface of the water. The abdomen, and under surface of the fins, are of a beautiful pearly white colour, appearing as if it had been enamelled. The usual length of my specimens, measured from the extremity of

the head to the tail, when extended floating upon the surface of the water, was 1½ inches; sometimes one or two lines more or less. The body of the animal is subcylindrical, terminating in a tail; which gradually becomes more slender towards the extremity, until it finally terminates in a delicate point. The head is short, with very small conical tentacula in pairs; two superior, and two inferior; three (and in G. octopterygius, Cuv., four) branchial fins on each side, opposite, palmated, and digitated at their extremities; the number of digitations, however, varying; and the centre digitations are the longest; the first branchial fins, those nearest the head, are larger and denser than the others. The mouth is armed with bony jaws; the body is gelatinous and covered by a thin and extremely sensible membrane.

"These little animals were very delicate and fragile in their structure, and although many, indeed, I may say numbers, were caught, yet very few in comparison were found to be in a perfect condition, some being deficient in one, two, or more fins, and others being completely crushed. Not one of the specimens caught on this occasion, or during the voyage, had the silvery line or streak running down the back, from the head to the extremity of the tail; branching off also to the fins and along the centre of each of the digitations. Several *Porpitæ* were also captured in the net at the same time with

these animals, and serve as food for them.

"It caused much regret to see the change death produced in the beauty of these interesting little animals, and all means of preserving them were found to be useless. When placed in spirits, the digits of the branchial fins speedily became retracted, the beautiful purple gradually faded and at last disappeared, and the delicate pearly white of the under surface of the body and fins peeled off and disappeared; thus did this beautiful mollusk become decomposed in less than the space of an hour. Some mollusks quickly lose their colour after death, but retain their form for a long time; but these speedily change after death, both in form and colour, and the beauty before so much admired perishes never to be regained.

"When taken in the hand, the under surface of the animal soon becomes denuded of the beautiful pearly white it previously had, and at that time appears like a small transparent bladder, in which a number of air-bubbles are observed, together with the viscera. On the abdomen being laid open, a large quantity of air-bubbles escaped, and perhaps a query may arise how far they assist the animal in float-

ing upon the surface of the water?

Mollusques,' is tolerably well executed, but no engraving can convey to the beholder the inconceivable delicacy and beauty of this mollusk; in the engraving alluded to, there is an inaccuracy at least as compared with the specimens before me,—in the digitated processes of the fins not being sufficiently united at the base; in the living specimens before me, they were united together at the base, and then branching off became gradually smaller until they terminated in a fine point. Again, in the engraving in Cuvier's work, the anal orifice is

placed on the right side, whereas in my specimens it was situated on the left; for in all the specimens I examined, I found the anus was disposed laterally and could be plainly distinguished situated on the left side of the animal, a little below the first fin. This I consider also the orifice of generation, as in some of the specimens examined, a rather long string of dots resembling ova were seen to protrude from it. One of the animals discharged from this orifice a large quantity of very light brownish fluid; this no doubt was the

fæces

"But few of these animals were caught after the 20th until the 24th of the same month, in latitude 2° 26' N., longitude 19° 51' W., when having light airs from S. by E., nearly calm; in the morning a great number were seen floating by the ship, and it was not difficult, by aid of my towing-net, to capture as many as I required, for they swam very superficially upon the water. The whole of those taken proved to be of the same species (G. hexapterygius) as those before caught. I again placed several of the specimens in a glass of sea water; they were full of life, sometimes moving about, not very briskly, however,—and at other times remaining floating upon the surface of the water, merely gently moving the fins. As they floated upon the surface of the water in the glass, the sides of the head, back, tail, fins, &c., exhibited at the time a light silvery blue colour, which was admirably contrasted with the deeper blue of the upper surface, and falling into the elegant pearly or silvery white of the under surface of the animal, displaying an exceedingly rich and elegant appearance. Often, when at rest, the animal would drop one or more of the fins, but on touching them, they would be immediately raised to the former position, and that organ was turned back as if to throw off the offending object, followed at the same time by a general movement of the whole body. On touching the animal upon the back, it seemed to display more sensitiveness in that than in any other part of the body, judging from the effects produced, in comparison with similar experiments on other portions of the body; for instance, the centre of the back was touched lightly and rapidly with a feather; which caused the little creature to sink as if under the pressure of the touch, throwing at the same time the head, tail, and all the fins upwards, followed by a general distortion of the whole body of the animal, as if the gentle touch had been productive of severe pain. I invariably found every part of the upper surface of the body very sensitive when touched, and displayed a general movement of uneasiness throughout the whole of the body of the creature.

"These creatures have a peculiar manner of throwing the head towards the tail, and flouncing the tail towards the head, when they are desirous of removing any object of annoyance. It is at that time these animals seem to recover from their torpidity, and evince the greatest activity in their movements. When much annoyed, they throw the body about with great activity, coiling up the head, tail, fins, &c., in a somewhat rotundiform position; and if the tormenting

object is not removed, dash out again in full activity of body, then return to the rotundiform position, and there remain for a short period apparently exhausted by their efforts. But on the cessation of the irritating cause, the animal quietly resumed its original position, perhaps dropping one or two of its wearied fins according as its own sensations of ease or comfort might dictate.

"When nothing irritated this tender mollusk, it would remain tranquilly floating upon the surface of the water with scarcely any movement but that which proceeded from the undulating movements of the digitated extremities of the fins, as well as an occasional

slight twisting motion of the same organs.

"I felt much interest in the beautiful display of a circulating fluid on the dorsal surface of these animals, which was afforded me by the assistance of a microscope. Through the semi-transparent membrane of the back, a fluid could be readily perceived close to the surface, evidently flowing in two directions, one taking a course downwards, and the other returning upwards; but I was unable to di-

stinguish two distinct vessels for these separate actions.

"These animals seemed to be very torpid in their movements, although sometimes, when floating upon the water, they would be seen busily engaged in moving their fins about, but those actions were soon suspended and their fins were suffered to hang lazily down, as if fatigued with the short exertion, which did not move them one inch about the glass of water; and even when the little indolent creatures did take the trouble to move themselves from one side of the glass to the other, it was effected by a tardy motion, stirring themselves first with one fin and then with the other, according as circumstances might require.

"I placed some small specimens of Porpita in the glass of water containing the Glauci, to observe if they would attack them; for some time one of the Glauci was close to a Porpita and was even annoyed by the tentaculæ of the latter touching its back, yet the Glaucus bore this, although with the usual characters of impatience. yet without attempting to attack it. At last it seized the Porpita between its jaws, and by aid of a powerful lens, an excellent opportunity was afforded me of closely watching the devouring process, which was effected by an apparently sucking motion; and at this time all the digitated processes of the fins were floating about, as at other times when the animal was at rest; but I did not observe, in one single instance, that they were of any use to the animal, either to aid in the capture or to securely hold their prey when in the act of being devoured; for the animal seems to depend merely upon the mouth in capturing its prey, as in this and other instances, which I had opportunities of observing, they seized their prey instantly with the mouth, and held it by that power alone, whilst by a kind of sucking motion the prey was devoured. The digitations may therefore only be regarded as appendages to the fins to aid the animal perhaps in the direction of its movements, as it was observed that they turned and twisted them about during the progressive motion, (that is, when this tardy animal is pleased to progress, which appeared to me very rarely to meet with its inclination,) as if in some

way or other to direct the movements of the animal.

The Glaucus, after eating the tentacles and nearly the whole of the soft under surface of its prey, left the horny portion, and remained tranquilly reposing upon the surface of the water after its meal, the only motion visible in the animal being the playing of the digits of its fins. The mutilated remains of the *Porpita* sank to the bottom of the glass.

"Soon after, another Glaucus began a devouring attack upon another Porpita which had been placed in the glass, eating a little of it and then ceasing after a short meal, occasionally renewing the attack at short intervals. On examining the Porpita, which had been partially devoured by the ravenous Glaucus, I found the disc had been cleared of the tentacles and other soft parts; a small part of the fleshy portion only remaining upon the disc. Only one part of the horny disc exhibited any injury, and that appeared to be the place where the animal was first grasped by the Glaucus.

"When any of these animals came in contact with another in the glass, they did not display any annoyance, or coil themselves up, nor did they evince any savage propensities one towards the other; and they would often float about, having their digitated processes in contact one with the other, without exhibiting any signs of annoyance; even when placed or pushed one against the other, they did

not manifest any irritation, but remained undisturbed as in their usual moments of quiet repose.

"On the back of the animal being seen in a strong light, a black line could be discerned on each margin, and passing down the centre of each fin, and sometimes varied in having two black lines on the upper part of one fin, although the opposite fin may display but one.

The margin between the falling of the purple colour of the back into the silvery white of the abdomen often exhibited beautiful tints of a golden green; but these variations were probably produced by

the effect of different rays of light.

"These animals soon perished; I could not preserve them for any length of time in the glass of sea water, although the water was changed as often as it was thought necessary; the digitated processes of the fins were observed to shrink up on the death of the animal, and the process of decomposition rapidly took place, the whole body becoming a shapeless mass, having a bluish colour of deadly hue for a short period, and then became of a blackish or brownish black colour. I have seldom seen a gelatinous animal which appeared so firm whilst in the water, that proved so speedily to decompose when removed from it; even the beautiful purple of the back, the silvery or enamel of the abdomen, and the silvery blue of the sides, all speedily vanish, indeed instantly disappear, upon the death of the animal, as if it had been washed off; the expansive, delicate, and beautiful fins and digitated processes are no longer seen; they shrank up to nothing.

"Even on taking the animal alive out of the water and placing it

upon the hand, that instant almost, from its extreme delicacy, it was destroyed: the digitations of the fins fell off, the least movement destroyed the beauty of the animal; it speedily lost all the deep purple and silvery enamelled tints, and became a loathsome mass. Thus do we too often find animals beautiful in external adornments, curious in their habits and organization, and calculated in every respect to supply us with inexhaustible sources of intellectual gratification, doomed speedily to perish; brief is the period allotted to them in the busy theatre of animated existence; but doubtless, with the gift of existence, they have received from the bounteous hand of their Creator, the means of enjoying their fleeting lives.

"To place these little animals in the glass of water from the towing net without injury to their delicate structure required care; so that as soon as they were captured in the net, attached to the meshes, they were not handled, but carefully washed off, which was effected by dipping the meshes in the glass of water, when the animal soon detached itself without sustaining any injury, and floated in the

water.

"Although these animals are so fragile, so easily destroyed on being taken out of their natural element, yet they fling themselves about in the water without sustaining any injury, without even the loss of any of the digitated processes of the fins; yet when there is much movement of the water in carrying the glass from one place to another, they are evidently disturbed and restless, and the fins are dropped; if therefore, a slight motion of the water disturbs them, what can become of these delicate mollusks during tempestuous weather; can they be similar to the delicate Ephemeris, doomed to live merely for the space of a day and perish in myriads? From the immense number seen only from the ship—and how many myriads more extended beyond our range of vision!—it conveyed to the mind some idea of the profusion of living beings inhabiting the wide expanse of ocean, and a feeling of astonishment at the inconceivable variety of forms and constructions to which animation has been imparted by creative power.

"The tail of this animal has been described as resembling that of a *Lizard*: the comparison is good, not only with regard to form, but also, with perhaps a little more flexibility of motion, when in action. Sometimes the animal throws its tail up to the body, as if intended to brush off any annoying object, and at other times, it has been observed to turn the head towards the side as if for a similar purpose. It seems, in the action of eating, to resemble a *Cater*-

pillar.

"No more of these animals were seen until the 15th of May at 10 r.m., when in lat. 24° 18'.5, long. 31° '.01 W., moderate breezes and fine weather; a number of Glauci were captured as well as Porpitæ; some of the latter had been partially devoured, and in some only the horny disc remained; this, there was no doubt, from the previous knowledge of the carnivorous propensities of the Glaucus, was their work, more especially as we had positive proof that tribes of them were wandering or prowling about the ocean to-

night. This was the last time during the voyage the Glauci were

captured.

"From these animals devouring the *Porpitæ*, we had positive evidence of their carnivorous habits, independent of the structure of the jaws; and the *tentacula* of the *Porpitæ* were no protection against their enemies; indeed, these appendages were first devoured and the horny disc was alone left, in many instances being quite picked clean; from this circumstance we may infer, that the horny discs of the *Porpitæ* and *Velellæ*, which previously, and for the last four days were found in the net, were the remains of those which had been devoured by the *Glauci* or similar carnivorous mollusks, among which we may with safety include (from the structure of its jaws, and from often capturing it attached to *Velella*,) the inhabitant of the *Janthina fragilis* or violet shell.

"The more we pursue the investigation of the actions of living objects, the more we see of the unbounded resources of creative power; and, after all our reasoning, must conclude that some wise purpose, though dimly perceptible to our imperfect understandings, is no doubt answered by this great law of organic formation,—the

law of variety."

Mr. Ogilby called the attention of the Meeting to the various preserved specimens of *Antelopes* then exhibited, and made the following observations on some *hollow-horned Ruminants*.

"In arranging the Society's collection subsequent to the late removal from Bruton Street, the following rare or undescribed species of Ruminants were observed, which it is thought proper to bring

under the public notice of the Society.

"1. Ixalus Probaton. A single skin of the very anomalous animal to which I propose assigning this name, was presented to the Society by Dr. Richardson, and has been considered as the female of A. Furcifer, from which, however, it differs in some of the most important characters. Of its origin there can be no reasonable doubt; it was contained in the same box with the skins of A. Furcifer, and other animals obtained by the celebrated zoologist just mentioned, during Capt. Franklin's memorable expedition, and the hay with which it was stuffed contained numerous small locks of the very peculiar hair of A. Furcifer. The specimen is a male about the size of a fallow Deer, the length from the nose to the end of the tail being 4 feet 10 inches. The head is $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, the tail, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches; and the ear, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Though the skin is that of an adult individual, as is proved by the incisors, which are all of the permanent class and considerably worn down, the head is without horns, having only two small, naked, flat scales, in the positions usually occupied by these organs; yet the bones of the skull remain beneath, and the specimen is unquestionably the spoil of a male animal. In form, as well as size, the animal resembles the fallow Deer (Cervus Dama). The colour is a uniform pale reddish brown above and on the outsides of the members; the breast, belly, and inner face of the anus and thighs are greyish white; the lower: part of the cheeks, the lips and beneath the chin are of the same colour, but the whole throat or under surface of the neck is pale reddish brown, like the back and sides. The tail is covered above with short reddish hair like that of the body, but it is perfectly naked beneath, and in form and length resembles the tail of some species of Deer (Cervus). The nose is hairy like that of a Goat; the animal is furnished with lachrymal sinuses of considerable size, opening by very obvious apertures of a circular form; it has inguinal pores and two teats, as in the common Antelope (A. Cervicapra); large spurious hoofs, and no appearance of scope or knee-brushes either on the anterior or posterior extremities. These characters will not permit it to be associated with any known group of Ruminants. That it is not merely a Deer which has cast its horns, is proved by the absence of the pedestals which support these organs in the solid-horned Ruminants, as well as by the hairy lips, two teats and inguinal pores; neither can it be a Sheep or a Goat, as is evinced by the lachrymal sinuses, inguinal pores, and the length and form of the tail, which, in the wild species of these genera, is nearly tuberculous. The supposition of its being the female of A. Furcifer is disproved by the sex of the specimen; in other respects, the existence of large spurious hoofs shows plainly enough that it has no affinity to that animal. There is but one other supposition: may it not be a species of Antelope allied to the typical group of that genus? and may not the abortive horns of the present specimen be the result of some acci-This may certainly be the case; the other characters of the specimen agree with those of the common Indian Antelope, and if the animal should eventually prove to belong to that genus, it may bear the specific name of A. Ixalus, which the classical scholar will recognise as the name of an undetermined species of Ruminant mentioned in the Iliad.

"2. Antilope Eurycerus. Of this magnificent and hitherto undescribed species, two pairs of horns, one attached to the skull, the other to the integuments of the head, have long existed in the Society's collection. Their origin is unknown, but I have reason to believe that they come from Western Africa. Their length in a straight line is 2 feet 15 inch; on the curve, 2 feet 75 inches; their circumference at the base is 10 inches; their distance at base 1 inch, and at the points 11 inches. In form they bear some resemblance to those of A. Strepsiceros, being wrinkled as in that species, and having a prominent ridge on their posterior face; but they form only one spiral twist instead of two, and their direction throughout lies in the plane of the forehead, whilst in the Koodoo these two planes form an angle of about 100°. The characters of the skull are likewise similar to those of the Koodoo, but it is broader and larger than in that animal. The points of the horns are of an ivory colour. The animal has a large muzzle, but is without lachrymal sinuses; it has a white band across the face, immediately under the eyes, and two white spots on each cheek. All these characters are distinctive of the natural group which includes the Koodoo, the present species, the Boshbok, the Guib, and the beautiful species mentioned by Mr.

Bennett (Proc. Zool. Soc., 1833, p. 1.) which is a real Antelope, and which I hope shortly to have an opportunity of describing in detail under the name of A. Doria, as a friend, who has connexions with the West Coast of Africa, has kindly undertaken to procure me skins.

"3. Antilope Philantomba. Two females of this minute species lived for some time in the Society's Gardens: they were brought from Sierra Leone and presented by Mr. McCormick. Mr. Rendall, who saw them with me at the Gardens, assured me that they were the Philantomba of the Sierra Leone negroes. The larger and older specimen has small horns about 11 inch long, bent slightly forwards and surrounded at the base with 5 or 6 small rings: the species is distinguished from the pygmy Antelope of the Cape by its longer tail and ears, the latter clothed with white hair on the inside, by the darker mouse-colour of the body and the uniform hue of the legs, which instead of being sandy red as in the Cape species, are of the same colour as the body, only rather paler. But for the circumstance of the female possessing horns, I should have been inclined to identify this animal with the A. Maxwellii of Col. Smith.

"4. Antilope Sumatrensis. This species and A. Thar were exhibited together for the purpose of pointing out the similarity of their zoological characters, and correcting a mistake into which Messrs. F. Cuvier, Desmarest, and Col. Smith have fallen with regard to the former species. According to these zoologists the Cambing Outan (A. Sumatrensis) possesses both the lachrymal sinus and the longitudinal gland on the maxillary bone, which distinguishes the Duykerbok (A. Mergens) and some other Antelopes: in reality the lachrymal sinus is sufficiently distinct, but there is not the slightest trace of any maxillary gland. The same zoologists represent the female Cambing as being without horns and having only two teats: the specimen exhibited, a young female, had tolerably large horns and distinctly showed four teats, thus agreeing in all respects with the adult female Thar with which it was compared.

"5. Antilope palmata. Colonel Smith has described the horns of this species from an imperfect pair preserved in the Museum of the College of Surgeons, but was undecided whether it should be considered as a distinct species or only a variety of the Prongbaick (A. Furcifer). The present perfect pair, with the skin of the head attached, goes far to prove the specific distinction, but the habitat is widely different from that assigned by Colonel Smith. The specimen came from Mexico, where Dr. Coulter informs me it is sufficiently common. The horns are twice or thrice as large again as those of A. Furcifer, and instead of preserving a tolerable degree of parallelism, as in that species, spread widely, and are much hooked at the points. The face also is of a very dark brown colour, whilst in A. Furcifer it is of the same light fawn as the upper parts of the body."

Mr. Gray exhibited a specimen of Argonaut with an Ocythoë from the Cape of Good Hope, and stated that as the subject had been brought forward at the last meeting, he was induced to remark that every time he considered it, and compared it under its various bearings with the relations of other *Molluscans* and their shells, he was more and more inclined to believe that the animal found in the shell of *Argonauta* was a parasite. He gave the following reasons for this belief.

"1. The animal has none of those peculiarities of organization for the deposition, formation, and growth of the shell, nor even the muscles for attaching it to the shell, which are found in all other shell-bearing Molluscans; instead of which it agrees in form, colour, and structure with the naked Mollusca, especially the naked Cephalopods.

"2. The shell, although it agrees in every respect with the shells of other *Molluscans* in structure, formation, and growth, is evidently not moulded on the body of the animal usually found in it, as other shells are; but exactly agrees in every point (except in the form of the spire), with the shell of *Carinaria*, which coincided with the other

Molluscans in all these respects.

"3. The body of the animal does not appear to have the power of secreting calcareous matter, for it does not, like all the *Mollusca* which have that power, secrete either a solid deposit or distinct septa to adapt the cavity of the shell to the increase of the body, nor does it cover over with calcareous matter any sand or other extraneous bodies which may have accidentally intruded themselves between the mantle and the shell, but leaves the sand, which is often found mixed with the eggs, free, without taking any means to prevent it from irritating the skin.

"4. The young shell of the just hatched animal which forms the apex of the shell at all periods of its growth, is much larger (ten times) than the eggs contained in the upper part of the cavity of

the Argonaut.

Mr. Gray further stated, that he does not think that any inference can be drawn in favour of the opinion that the Ocythoë forms the shell, from either of the three arguments which have been produced in favour of that hypothesis, which he then examined in detail.

- "5. He believes that Poli must have been misled when he thought that he had discovered the animal in the egg of an Ocythoë covered with the "rudiment of a shell," because all the Molluscans which he has seen in the egg (Cephalopods as well as others) were covered with a well-developed shell, even before all the organs were developed, and the figure which Poli gives of the rudiment does not agree with the nucleus found on the apex of the shell of the Aryonauts. Unfortunately, none of the eggs of the Ocythoës that have been examined by other observers have been enough developed to show the foctal animal.
- "6. The different species of Argonauta are said to be inhabited by different species of Ocythoë; but allowing this to be the case, it only proves that each of these genera have local species: the same may be observed with respect to the Hermit Crabs, without proving anything in favour of their being the framers of the shell they live in
 - "7. That though some specimens of Ocythoë preserved in their

shells are marked with cross grooves resembling the grooves on the shell, yet these grooves are only formed by the pressure of the dead animal against the shell; for the specimens of the animal which are found out of the shell, or which are taken out of the shell while recent, are always destitute of these grooves, or of the compressed form of the cavity of the shell. That some specimens which he had received from the Cape (of which that now on the table was one), which had been packed on their sides, had the upper side of the animal smooth and rounded, and the lower flat, and curved like the shell on which it was pressed by its own weight; while a specimen which he had received from the Mediterranean packed erect, with the mouth upwards, so that the animal was equally pressed against each side of the shell, was flattened and curved on each side, like the specimen examined by M. Ferussac.

Mr. Gray also stated that, so far from the animal using the finned arms as sails, they were the means by which it retained itself in the shell; and he further observed, that it was very difficult to distinguish the species of Argonauta, as they varied greatly in shape, and that on a comparison of many specimens, he had found that the presence or absence of the spines or ears at the back of the mouth were of no importance as a specific character, specimens of each of the recorded species having this process developed only on one or the

other side.

The Chairman, after premising some observations on the diseases to which the mortality of the larger feline animals in the Society's Menagerie was attributable, proceeded to read the following description of two *Entozoa* infesting the stomach of the *Tiger*, (*Felis Tigris*, Linn.,) one of which forms the type of a new genus of *Nematoidea*.

"I received a few days ago, from the Medical Superintendent of the Society's Menagerie, a portion of the stomach of a young Tiger (which died of rupture of the aorta), exhibiting on the internal or mucous surface what were considered to be scrofulous tumours. They were five or six in number, of a round and oblong form, varying in size from half an inch to two inches in the largest diameter, and the largest of them projecting about half an inch from the plane of the inner surface: they made no projection externally. The mucous membrane covering the smaller tumours was puckered up into minute reticulate rugæ: the surface of the largest tumour was smooth. On wiping away the tough thick mucous secretion from the tumours, and examining more closely their surface, two or three orifices presented themselves in the larger, and a single orifice in each of the smaller tumours. These orifices conducted to irregular sinuses which were the nidi of two kinds of Nematoid Entozoa, some measuring nearly an inch in length and a line in thickness; the others being more minute, not exceeding 5 lines in length, and about $\frac{1}{30}$ of an inch in diameter. Only a pair of the larger Entozoa were found in each of the three largest tumours; the smaller species existed in countless numbers.

"Before proceeding with the description of the worms, I may

briefly conclude the history of the tumours by observing that they were composed of condensed accumulated layers of the sub-mucous cellular tissue, presenting a flat surface next the muscular coat, to which the larger tumours firmly adhered, and projecting with a rounded convexity towards the cavity of the stomach, where the sinuses opened and terminated. They did not contain any of the caseous secretion characteristic of struma, but were most probably caused by the irritation of the *Entozoa*.

"The dimensions of the larger Entozoa above given are those of the female: the male is about one fourth smaller. In both sexes the body is slightly attenuated at the two extremities; the caudal extremity is more inflected and more obtuse in the male; the oral ex-

tremity in both is obtuse and truncate.

"The surface of the body appears to the naked eye to be minutely striated transversely: it is variegated by the white genital, and amber-coloured digestive tubes appearing through the transparent integument. When examined with a lens of half-inch focus, the anterior two-thirds of the body are seen to be covered with circular series of minute reflected spines, which, viewed with a still higher power, present three distinct points, one large one in the middle and two small lateral ones.

"The mouth is surrounded by a tumid circular lip armed with six or seven circular rows of well-developed spinous processes of a similar complex structure to those on the body. The oral orifice itself presents the form of a vertical elliptical fissure, bounded on each side by a jaw-like membranous fold or process, the anterior margin of which is produced in the form of three straight horny points or processes, directed forwards. These lateral processes can be protruded beyond the circular lip by compressing the smooth spineless skin behind the latter; and the elasticity of the structure causes them to be again retracted on remitting the pressure.

"The vulva is situated at the junction of the middle and posterior thirds of the body; the anus in the female is in the form of a transverse semilunar fissure immediately behind the obtuse posterior apex,

and on the concave side of the inflection.

"The anus of the male, from the anterior part of which a single slightly-curved intromittent spiculum is protruded, is surrounded by eight distinct pointed papilla, three of which are placed in a vertical row on each side, and two smaller ones at the lower boundary of

the common opening to the rectum and male gland.

"On comparing this Nematoid worm with those already described, it approaches most nearly to some species which are referred by Rudolphi to the genus Strongylus, as the Strongylus trigonocephalus, R., (Hist. Entoz. ii. pl. I. p. 231.,) in which species the 'Bursa maris subglobosa, biloba, multiradiata,' presents an approximation to the structure of the external male organs above described, in which the eight tubercles surround the opening somewhat after the manner of rays. But on pursuing the comparison we find that here the resemblance ceases: there is no subglobose bilobed sheath to the intromittent organ in the species here described; the head is sur-

rounded by a circular instead of a trigonal lip; the Strong. trigonocephalus is placed by Rudolphi in the section c, ore nudo, while the armature of the mouth, in the present species, is so remarkable, as to induce me to regard it as the type of a new genus, which I propose to denominate Gnathostoma*.

"Gen. Char. Corpus teres, elasticum, utrinque attenuatum. Caput unilabiatum, labio circulari tumido integro; os emissile, processibus corneis maxilliformibus duobus lateralibus denticulatis. Genitale

masculum spiculum simplex, ad basin papillis circumdatum.

"Sp. Gnath. spinigerum. Gnath., capite truncato, corpore seriebus

plurimis spinulorum armato.

"The generic difference indicated by the external peculiarities of the Entozoa above described, is confirmed by the internal anatomy, which presents some peculiarities which appear not to have been hitherto detected in the class Entozoa: I refer more particularly to a distinct salivary apparatus, conformable to that which exists in the Holothuria and other Echinodermata. This apparatus consists of four elongated straight blind tubes, each about two lines in length, which are placed at equal distances around the commencement of the alimentary canal, having their smaller extremities directed forward, and opening into the mouth, at the base of the lateral tridentate processes, and their closed obtuse ends passing backwards into the ab-When examined with a lens of 1 inch focus, the dominal cavity. parietes of these salivary tubes present very distinct oblique or spiral decussating fibres; their contents are semi-pellucid in the recent worm, but become opake in spirit of wine.

"The coexistence of these salivary glands with an oral apparatas which is better adapted for trituration than any that has hitherto been detected in the *Entozoa*, is conformable to the laws which regulate the existence and condition of the salivary apparatus in higher animals; and is highly interesting on that account. The only allusion which I can find to salivary organs in other *Entozoa* is in Cloquet's 'Anatomie de l'Ascaride Lombricoide,' in which he considers the thickened glandular parietes of the asophagus to serve for an analo-

gous secretion.

"The first portion of the alimentary canal or stomach, is about 3 lines in length; it contains a milk-white substance, and is separated by a well-marked constriction from the remaining portion, which we may regard as intestine: this is filled with a pulpy substance of an amber colour, which grows deeper in tint as it approaches the anus. The intestine enlarges slightly as it passes backward; it is wide and straight: is not tied down to the parietes of the body by mesenteric filaments as in the Strongylus gigas, &c.; its surface is irregular, and it seems to contain a spiral tube or valve, but this appearance arises from the nature of the internal surface of the intestinal tunics, which is beset with large regular obtuse lozenge-shaped processes arranged in alternate longitudinal rows.

"The lateral lines of the body consist distinctly of two vessels,

γναθος maxilla, στόμα οε.

which project into the interior of the body, being attached by a small part of their circumference; and becoming very wide and free near the head. The dorsal and ventral nervous cords are plainly visible in the midspace of the lateral vessels. The muscular tunics of the body are well developed, consisting of external transverse and internal longitudinal fibres. The latter are lined with a layer of pulpy floculent substance.

"The male organs consist of a slightly-curved slender single spiculum, projecting from the caudal extremity of the body, as above described. The base of this spiculum communicates with a dilated receptacle, 2 lines long, of an opake white colour, which is separated by a slight constriction from the rest of the seminal tube; this is, as usual, single: it is semi-transparent, and gradually grows smaller to its blind extremity, which is attached by cellular tissue to the middle line of the ventral surface of the body, half-way between the two extremities. The whole length of the seminal tube is ten times that of the entire worm.

"The female organs consist of the vulva, vagina, uterus bicornis, and oviducts or ovarian tubes.

"From the vulva, the situation of which has been already mentioned, the vagina is continued, at first wide, then narrower, and lastly widening again to pass into the uterus: it exceeds an inch in length. The two cornua of the uterus are each about \(\frac{1}{2} \) a line in diameter, and 5 lines in length; they diminish and are continued without any constriction into the ovarian tubes; these are of immense proportional length, each exceeding, by 30 times, the length of the body; their attenuated extremities or beginnings are not attached to the parietes of the body; although the coils of the oviducts appear at first sight to be inextricably interwoven around the intestine, they in reality cover it in aggregate folds, which are easily separated from the intestine, and unrayelled."

Mr. Owen stated in conclusion, that preparations exhibiting the male and female organs thus unfolded, with the digestive canal and salivary apparatus, had been deposited in the Museum of the Royal

College of Surgeons.

December 13, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

Part of a paper by M. Frederick Cuvier was read, on the Family of the *Dipodidæ*, including the *Jerboas* and *Gerbillas**.

Mr. F. Debell Bennett, Corresponding Member of the Society, then read some Notes on the anatomy of the Spermaceti Whale, (*Physeter macrocephalus*, Auctorum,) principally relating to its dentition, and to the structure and appearances presented by the soft parts.

Mr. Bennett remarks that a greater disproportion exists between the sexes in this species of Whale than is observed in any other cetaceous animal; for while the usual length of the largest male Cachalots, taken in the South Seas, is about 60 feet, that of full-

grown females is only 28, and rarely, if ever, exceeding 35.

When the young male Cachalot has attained the length of 34 feet, its teeth are perfectly formed, though not visible until it exceeds 28. The upper jaw usually described as toothless, has on either side a short row of teeth, sometimes occupying the bottom of the cavities which receive the teeth of the lower-jaw, but generally corresponding to the intervals between them. The entire length of these teeth is about three inches; they are slightly curved backwards, and elevated about half an inch above the soft parts, in which they are deeply imbedded, having only a slight attachment to the maxillary bone. Their number is not readily ascertained, because the whole series are not always apparent; but in two instances Mr. Bennett found 8 on each side. These teeth exist in adult Whales of both sexes, and though not visible externally in the young Cachalots, may be seen upon the removal of the soft parts from the interior of the jaw.

"The eye of the Cachalot is small, and placed far back on the head, above and between the pectoral fin and angle of the lower jaw. Its situation is chiefly marked by a raised portion of integument around it. The aperture for vision does not exceed 2 inches in the longitudinal, and 1 inch in the vertical direction. The eyelids are without cilia and tarsal cartilages; they are composed of two horizontal bands of integument, each, in the example from which I describe (viz. a halfgrown male), two inches in depth, and connected with each other at the inner and outer canthus. Between each of the eyelids and the blubber exists a distinct line of separation, marked by a somewhat deep groove, having a duplicature of thin membrane, serving as a surface or hinge on which the lids move. At these lines of demarcation all integument partaking of the nature of fat ceases, and the texture of the tarsi thus insulated is composed solely of common skin and cellular and other membranes, together with a dense layer

No. XLVIII.—PROCEEDINGS OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

[•] The abstract of this and the concluding part of the Memoir will be found in the Proceedings for December 27, 1836.

of muscular fibres deposited in its centre. The conjunctiva of the lids is highly vascular, injected with blood, and covered with orifices of mucous ducts. At the inner canthus of the eye it forms a thick duplicature, of crescentic form, constituting a rudimental third eyelid, not unlike the haw of the horse. The globe of the eye is chiefly lodged in the soft parts, but little if any of its substance entering the bony orbit. It is deeply set within the lids, and does not in size much exceed that of an ox. Its size in an adult female was $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in the longitudinal, and the same in the vertical direction. The interior or cavity was $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch in each of the last-named directions, and its depth $\frac{1}{4}$ rds of an inch only.

"The globe at its greatest circumference was $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches: the transparent cornea at its transverse or broadest diameter measured 1 inch, and in its vertical or narrowest $\frac{3}{4}$ ths of an inch. The muscles of the globe formed a dense mass surrounding the sheath of the optic nerve, and were inserted in one continuous line over the circumference of

the globe at its greatest convexity.

"The optic nerve before penetrating the sclerotic is continued to some length. It does not exceed the circumference of a crow's quill, but is surrounded by a dense fibrous sheath nearly 4 inches in perimeter, and which, where the nerve perforates the globe, terminates on the posterior surface of the latter. Around the globe and its muscles much cellular tissue and true fat are deposited. The eyeball in shape is not a perfect sphere; its anterior and posterior surfaces are flattened: that portion of the conjunctiva of the globe immediately surrounding the cornea, and the only portion exposed between the aperture of the lids, is of an intense black hue. It is possible this dark portion may be a membrane distinct from the conjunctiva, since around the extent it occupies, it terminates by an irregular margin, and is capable of being detached from the conjunctiva, when it presents the form of a delicate layer of cuticle, with a black pigment deposited beneath its surface*.

"The cornea of the Cachalot is dense, and composed of many layers; when divided, a small quantity of limpid aqueous humour flows forth: the anterior chamber of the eye is very limited, and the crystalline lens projects into it through the pupillary aperture. The iris is a coarse membrane of a dull-brown colour, with a narrow zone of lighter hue surrounding its outer margin. Its inner and free margin is very thin, and embraces the protruding convexity of the lens.

"The lens is small, certainly not exceeding in size that of the human eye: it forms nearly a perfect sphere: the vitreous humour tolerably abundant. The retina was spread with beautifully delicate arborescent vessels, and afforded a small bright spot at the insertion of the optic nerve. Beneath the retina was spread a tapetum of dense membranous texture, and yellow-green or erugo-green colour. The sclerotic at its posterior third is thick, fibrous, and resisting, whilst its anterior third is thin and flexible; no lachrymal apparatus exists."

A slight dark tint around the cornea is not uncommon amongst the dark-skinned natives of warm countries.

In the description of the organs of generation; the cavity in the head containing the spermaceti; and some more of the soft parts, Mr. Bennett's observations coincide with those of Hunter and other comparative anatomists.

A fatus apparently of mature growth, taken from the abdomen of a Sperm Whale, measured 14 feet in length and 6 in girth; its

position in the uterus was that of a bent bow.

Mr. Reid brought before the notice of the Meeting a new species of the genus *Perameles*, and read a paper giving some account of its

habits, and pointing out its distinguishing characters.

The author states that he was indebted to William Holmes, Esq., of Lyon's Inn, for the opportunity of exhibiting this specimen, which was brought from Van Diemen's Land, where these animals are said to be common. The same species is also found in Western Australia, and is there called by the natives Dalgheit, and by the colonists the Rabbit, under which name it is mentioned by Cunningham in his work on New South Wales. Widdowson, in his account of Van Diemen's Land, notices it; but neither of these writers has given any description of the animal. From its resemblance to the Rabbit, Mr. Reid proposes for it the specific name of Lagotis.

PERAMELES LAGOTIS. Per. griseus, capite, nuchd, et dorso, castaneo lavatis; buccis, lateribus colli, scapulis, lateribus, femoribus extus, caudaque ad basin, pallide castaneis; mento, guld, pectore, abdomine, extremitatibus intùs anticèque, antibrachiis postice, pedibusque suprà albidis; antibrachiis externè pallidè griseis, femoribus extus posticeque saturate plumbeis; caudd, pilis longis albescentibus ad partem basalem, indutd, dein pilis nigris tectd, parte apicali alba, pilis longis supra ornata. Vellere longo molli. Caudd pilis rudis vestita; pilis ad pedes brevissimis. Labio superiore, buccisque, mystacibus longis sparsis. Auriculis longis, ovatis, intus nudis, extus pilis brevissimis brunneis, ad marginem, albescentibus indutis, pilis ad bases eos plumbeis, apicibus albis aut castaneis, illis in abdomine omnino albis. Marsupio ventrali magno, mammis novem, in faciem posticam; quarum una centralis est, reliquis circumdata, intervallis æqualibus, gyrumque facientibus, transversim unciam cum quadrante reddentem.

	poli.	lin.
Long. capitis	² 5	3
corporis	13	0
caudæ	10	0
auriculæ	3	10
— antibrachii	4	0
—— pedis antici	1	8
tibiæ	3	9
pedis postici	4	6
ab auriculæ basi usque ad oculum	2	0
ab oculo usque ad nasum	2	8
Latitudo auriculæ	1	9
In Australia Occidentali et in Terra Van Di	ieme	n.

"The ears are long, broad, and ovate, having several semitransparent dots scattered over their surface (the remains of sebaceous glands). On the anterior extremity the nails are much elongated; the second and third are about ½th of an inch longer than the first; they are all flattened at the tips, thus furnishing the animal with a very efficient apparatus for burrowing. The tail offers many differences from that of the other species of the genus *Perameles*. The basal fourth is clothed with hairs about the same length and colour as those of the body. The middle half is black, the hairs on the upper part being elongated; the remaining part is white, with a ridge of long white stiff hairs forming a crest.

"The pouch in this specimen (a female) is large, and has 9 nipples on its posterior surface; one being placed in the centre, and the remainder at equal distances form a circle, the diameter of which is

1 inch 3 lines.

"The skull is perfect, but the state of the skin was such as totally to prevent its removal, and the description is therefore defective in particulars concerning the bones of the face. The interparietal and occipital crests are clearly defined and large. The bulla of the ear is large, and its shape that of a flattened evoid. The tympanum was entire, and on removing it the manubrium of the malleus was found to be twice the length of its body. The zygomatic arch is imperfect for about the space of $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch. The lower-jaw is slender, with a salient process at its angle. Dent.: Prim. $\frac{5-5}{6}$, Can. $\frac{1-1}{1-1}$, Mol. spur. $\frac{5-3}{1-1}$ Mol. ver. $\frac{5-3}{1-1}$ Mol. ver. $\frac{5-3}{1-1}$ Mol. ver. $\frac{5-3}{1-1}$ Mol. ver.

"The two front superior incisors are nearly a line apart, small, and quadrangular; a small space intervenes between these and the three succeeding, which are larger, and placed in a continuous series. The fourth and fifth incisors are about the same distance from each other as the two anterior. Posterior to the incisors is a space about 5 lines in width, for the reception of the inferior canines. The canines are well developed: another space intervenes between them and the false molars, which latter are all rather widely separated, of a conical shape, and have a small tubercle anterior to the body of the tooth.

"The molars of Perameles, as figured by M. F. Cuvier in his 'Dents des Mammifères,' consist of two prisms fixed to a slightly curved base, with the concavity towards the inside of the jaw; but in this species the molars are quadrangular, having had but two sets of tubercles, and in the present specimen these teeth are worn down and present a square surface, inclosed by enamel, having a band of the same running transversely across the middle of the tooth. The two last molars of the upper jaw approximate so closely, as to require careful examination to detect the line of separation. The teeth of the lower jaw, except in number and in the circumstance of all the incisors forming a continuous series, do not differ from those of the upper. When the jaws are closed, the posterior molars of the upper and lower jaws are in contact.

"A friend of Mr. Gould's, residing in Western Australia, states that these animals are found beyond the mountains of Swan River, in the district of York. They feed upon large maggots and the roots of trees, and do considerable damage to the maize and potato crops by burrowing. A specimen kept by him in confinement became in a few days very docile, but was irritable, and resented the slightest affront or ill usage. It took bread, which it held in its fore-paws. A young one to which it gave birth unfortunately escaped, after being carried in the mother's pouch for several days.

Mr. Reid considers the distinctions between this and the rest of the species belonging to the genus Perameles so marked, that should more of the same form be discovered, the above characters would constitute a subgenus to which the name of Macrotis might be

applied.

Mr. Waterhouse exhibited a second specimen of Myrmecobius, and directed the attention of the Meeting to certain differences existing between it and the one upon which he had founded the characters of the genus, and described under the specific name of 'fasciatus.'

The present animal differs from the one previously described in having the black and fulvous colouring of the back less decided, owing to a larger proportion of interspersed white hairs. The fasciæ, instead of being white, are of a yellowish cream-colour, and they also differ in number and arrangement. Commencing from the tail, the three first are distinct and uninterrupted, the intermediate spaces being about & an inch in width, black, with white hairs interspersed, and a few of an ochraceous colour. The fourth is also distinct, but instead of being continued across the back, it is met by two fasciæ from the opposite side. The two following are continuous, but less distinct than either of the foregoing. Beyond these, the fasciæ are almost obsolete, there being only faint indications of them on the sides of the body.

The most important distinction, however, exists in the teeth, the present specimen possessing altogether four more molars than the one brought before the notice of the Society on a previous occasion. The entire number of teeth is 52, (26 in each jaw), and the 5 posterior molars are placed closely together, differing in that respect from

those of the previously examined specimen.

The animal was brought from Van Diemen's Land, and others similar to it were observed scratching at the roots of trees, and feeding upon the insects which are generally abundant in such situ-Their favourite haunts are stated to be the localities in which the Port Jackson willow is most plentiful.

Mr. Waterhouse remarked that although the differences between the two animals were considerable, yet he did not consider the distinctions such as to justify his characterizing the one then before the Meeting as a second species.

A Paper was then read by William Ogilby, Esq., with a view of pointing out the characters to which the most importance should be attached in establishing generic distinctions among the Ruminantia.

Mr. Ogilby commences by observing that "It has been justly remarked by Professor Pallas, that if the generic characters of the Ruminantia were to be founded upon the modifications of dentition, in accordance with the rule so generally applicable to other groups of Mammals, the greater part of the order would necessarily be comprised in a single genus; since the number, form, and arrangement of the teeth being the same in all, except the Camels and Llamas, these organs consequently afford no grounds of definite or general distinction. Hence it is that naturalists have been obliged to resort to other principles to regulate the distribution of ruminating animals; and the form, curvature, and direction of the horns, selected for this purpose at a period when the extremely limited knowledge of species permitted the practical application of such arbitrary and artificial characters without any very glaring violation of natural affinities, still continue to be the only rule adopted by zoologists in this department of Mammalogy. The illustrious Illiger forms a solitary but honourable exception; he first introduced the consideration of the muzzle and lachrymal sinus into the definitions of the genera Antilope, Capra, and Bos; but his labours were disregarded by subsequent writers, or his principles applied only to the subdivision of the genus Antilope. is obvious, however, that as the knowledge of new forms and species became more and more extensive, the prevailing gratuitous rule above mentioned, founded as it is upon purely arbitrary characters which have no necessary relation to the habits and economy, or even to the general external form, of the animals themselves, would eventually involve in confusion and inconsistency the different groups which were founded upon its application; and such has long been its acknowledged effect. The genus Antilope, in particular, has become a kind of zoological refuge for the destitute, and forms an incongruous assemblage of all the hollow-horned Ruminants, without distinction of form or character, which the mere shape of the horns excluded from the genera Bos, Ovis, and Capra; it has thus come to contain nearly four times as many species as all the rest of the hollowhorned Ruminants together; so diversified are its forms, and so incongruous its materials, that it presents not a single character which will either apply to all its species, or suffice to differentiate it from conterminous genera.

"To meet this obvious evil, MM. Lichtenstein, De Blainville, Desmarest, and Hamilton Smith have applied Illiger's principles to subdivide the artificial genus Antilope into something more nearly approaching to natural groups; the reform thus effected, however, was but partial in its operation; the root of the evil still remained untouched, for none of these eminent zoologists appears to have been sufficiently aware of the extremely arbitrary and artificial character of the principal group itself, which they contented themselves with breaking up into subgenera, nor of the actual importance and extensive application of the characters which they employed for that purpose. By mixing up these characters, moreover, with others of a secondary and less important nature, the benefit which might have been expected from their labours has been, in a great measure, neu-

tralized; and even the subdivisions which they have introduced into the so-called genus Antilope, are less definite and comprehensive than

they might otherwise have been made.

"The truth is, however, that the presence or absence of horns in one or both sexes; the substance and nature of these organs, whether solid or concave, permanent or deciduary; the form of the upper lip, whether thin and attenuated as in the goat, or terminating in a broad heavy naked muzzle as in the Ox; and the existence of lachrymal sinuses and interdigital pores, are the characters which really influence the habits and occonomy of ruminating animals, and upon which, consequently, their generic distinctions mainly depend. These, with the assistance, in a very few instances, of such accessory characters as the superorbital and maxillary glands, the number of teats, and the existence of inguinal pores, are sufficient in all cases to define and characterize the genera with the strictest reference to logical precision and zoological simplicity. It is not my intention to discuss the value of these characters, or to state the reasons which induced me to adopt them in preference to those more generally employed in this department of Mammalogy; these will form the subject of a future communication, and I shall content myself for the present with observing, that the presence or absence of horns in the females regulates, in a great measure, the social intercourse of the sexes, that upon the form of the lips and muzzle, the only organs of touch and prehension among the Ruminantia, depend the nature of the food and habitat, making the animal a grazer or a browser, as the case may be; and that the existence or nonexistence of interdigital glands, the use of which appears to be to lubricate the hoofs, has a very extensive influence upon the geographical distribution of the species; confining them to the rich savannah and the moist forest, or enabling them to roam over the arid mountain, the parched karroo, and the burning desert.

"Having thus briefly explained the necessity of reforming the characters of the different groups of the Order Ruminantia, as they are at present constituted, and the nature and value of the principles which I propose to employ for that purpose, I shall at once proceed to their practical application, confidently anticipating that their employment will remove the most serious objections which exist against the present distribution of the order, and place our knowledge of these interesting animals, in point of scientific accuracy, precision, and affinity, on a par with the more generally cultivated departments

Fam. I. CAMBLIDE.

Pedes subbisulci, subtùs callosi, digitis apice solo distinctis; ungulæ succenturiatæ nullæ; cornua nulla; dentes primores suprà duo, infrà sex.

2 Genera.

of zoology.

1. Camelus, cujus characteres sunt: Digiti conjuncti, immobiles.

Rostrum chilomate instructum, labro fisso.
Sinus lachrymales nulli.
Fossæ interdigitales nullæ.
Folliculi inguinales nulli.
Mammæ quatuor.

2. Auchenia:

Digiti disjuncti, mobiles.

Rostrum chilomate instructum, labro fisso.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales nullæ.

Folliculi inguinales nulli.

Mammæ duæ.

"The Camelidæ form what Mr. MacLeay would call an aberrant group; they differ essentially from other Ruminants in the structure both of the organs of locomotion and of mastication, and their generic distinctions consequently depend upon characters which have no application to the remaining groups of the order. On the other hand, the principles of generic distribution which subsist among the rest of the Ruminantia appear to furnish negative characters only when applied to the Camelidæ; but though necessarily expressed negatively, the absence of lachrymal, inguinal, and interdigital sinuses forms, in reality, positive and substantial characters, and as such, as well as for the sake of uniformity, should be introduced into the definition of these, as well as of other genera, in which they unavoidably appear under a negative form.

Fam. II. CERVIDÆ.

Pedes bisulci; cornua solida, plerùmque decidua, in mare solo, aut in utroque sexu; dentes primores suprà nulli, infrà octo.

6 Genera.

1. CAMELOPARDALIS.

Cornua in utroque sexu, perennia, simplicia, cute obducta.

Rhinaria nulla.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales parvæ.

Folliculi inguinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Duo species sunt C. Æthiopicus et C. Capensis.

2. TARANDUS.

Cornua in utroque sexu, subpalmata, decidua.

Rhinaria nulla.

Sinus lachrymales exigui.

Fossæ interdigitales parvæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est Tarandus Rangifer (Cervus Tarandus).

3. ALCES.

Cornua in mare solo, palmata, decidua.

Rhinaria nulla.

Sinus lachrymales exigui.

Fossæ interdigitales magnæ.

Folliculi inguinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est Alces Machlis (Cervus Alces).

4. CERVUS.

Cornua in mare solo, ramosa, decidua.

Rhinaria magna.

Sinus lachrymales distincti, mobiles.

Fossæ interdigitales magnæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typi sunt C. Elaphus et C. Saumer aut Hippelaphus, Cuv.

5. CAPREA.

Cornua in mare solo, subramosa, decidua.

Rhinaria distincta.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales magnæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est C. Capreolus.

6. Prox.

Cornua in mare solo, subramosa, decidua.

Rhinaria magna.

Sinus lachrymales maximi, mobiles.

Sinus duo supraorbitales ad basin cornuum, magni, mobiles.

Fossæ interdigitales magnæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est Prox Moschatus (Cervus Muntjac).

Fam. III. Moschidas.

Pedes bisulci; cornua nulla; dentes primores suprà nulli, infrà

2 Genera.

1. Moscaus.

Rhinaria magna.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales nullæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est Moschus Moschiferus.

2. IXALUS?

Rhinaria nulla.

Sinus lachrymales exigui, distincti.
Fossæ interdigitales nullæ.
Folliculi inguinales exigui.
Mammæ duæ.

Typus est Ixalus Probaton, Proc. Zool. Soc., Part IV. page 119.

"The genus Ixalus, founded upon the observation of a single specimen, may eventually prove to belong to a different family; it differs little, indeed, from the true Antelopes: but even supposing it to be correctly placed among the Moschidæ, other forms are still wanting to fill up the chasms which evidently exist among the characters of that group. Two are more especially indicated, and our knowledge of the laws of organic combination and of the constituent parts of other groups, gives us every reason to believe in their actual existence, and to anticipate their discovery. They will be characterized nearly as follows, and will probably be found, one in the tropical forests of the Indian Archipelago, and the other on the elevated table lands of Mexico or South America.

HINNULUS.

Rhinaria magna.
Sinus lachrymales distincti.
Fossæ interdigitales nullæ.
Folliculi inguinales nulli.
Mammæ quatuor.

CAPREOLUS.

Rhinaria nulla. Sinus lachrymales nulli. Fossæ interdigitales parvæ? Folliculi inguinales? Mammæ duæ.

"It may appear a bold, perhaps a presumptuous undertaking, thus to predict the discovery of species, and define the characters of genera, of whose actual existence we have no positive knowledge; but, as already remarked, all the analogies of nature, whether derived from organic combination or from the constituent members of similar groups, are in favour of the supposition; and I may observe further, that the recent discovery of the genus Ixalus, if indeed it eventually prove to be a genus, of which I had long previously defined the characters, as I have here done for the presumed genera Hinaulus and Capreolus, strengthens my belief in the actual existence of these forms, and increases the probability of their future discovery.

Fam. IV. CAPRIDÆ.

Pedes bisulci; cornua cava, persistentia; rhinaria nulla; dentes primores suprà nulli, infrà octo.

7 Genera.

1. MAZAMA.

Cornua in mare solo.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales distinctæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est M. Furcifer (Antilope Furcifer).

2. MADOQUA.

Cornua in mare solo.

Sinus lachrymales distincti.

Fossæ interdigitales distinctæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est M. Saltiana (Ant. Saltiana et Hemprichii).

3. Antilope.

Cornua in mare solo.

Sinus lachrymales distincti, mobiles.

Fossæ interdigitales maximæ.

Folliculi inquinales maximi.

Mammæ duæ.

Typus est A. Cervicapra.

4. GAZELLA.

Cornua in utroque sexu.

Sinus lachrymales distincti, mobiles.

Fossæ interdigitales maximæ.

Folliculi inquinales maximi.

Mammæ duæ.

Typus est Gazella Dorcas (Ant. Dorcas).

5. Ovis.

Cornua in utroque sexu.

Sinus lachrymales exigui, immobiles.

Fossæ interdigitales parvæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ duæ.

Typus est Ovis Aries.

6. CAPRA.

Cornua in utroque sexu.

· Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales parvæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ duæ.

Typus est Capra Hircus. Ad hoc genus pertinent Ovis Tragelaphus, et Antilope Lanigera aut Americana, Auct.

7. Ovibos.

Cornua in utroque sexu.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales? Folliculi inquinales nulli. Mammæ quatuor.

Typus Ovibos Moschatus.

Fam. V. Bovide.

Pedes bisulci; cornua cava, persistentia; rhinaria distincta, nuda; dentes primores suprà nulli, infrà octo.

9 Genera.

1. TRAGULUS.

Cornua in utroque sexu. Glandulæ maxillares oblongæ. Fossæ interdigitales nullæ. Folliculi inguinales nulli. Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est T. Pygmæus (Ant. Pygmæa).

2. SYLVICAPBA.

Cornua in mare solo. Glandulæ maxillares oblongæ. Fossæ interdigitales parvæ. Folliculi inguinales distincti.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est S. Mergens (Ant. Mergens).

3. Tragelaphus. Cornua in mare solo. Sinus lachrymales magni. Fossæ interdigitales distinctæ. Folliculi inquinales nulli. Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est T. Hippelaphus (Ant. Picta); the Neel-ghae, and not the Saumer Deer of India, as I shall show elsewhere, is the animal described by Aristotle under the name of Hippelaphus.

4. CALLIOPE.

Cornua in mare solo. Sinus lachrymales nulli. Fossæ interdigitales nullæ. Folliculi inguinales distincti. Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est Calliope Strepsiceros (Ant. Strepsiceros).

5. Kemas.

Cornua in utroque sexu. Sinus lachrymales nulli. Fossæ interdigitales magnæ. Folliculi inquinales nulli. Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est Kemas Ghoral (Ant. Goral).

6. CAPRICORNIS.

Cornua in utroque sexu. Sinus lachrymales magni. Fossæ interdigitales distinctæ.

Folliculi inguinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est C. Thar (Ant. Thar, Hodg.).

7. Bubalus.

Cornua in utroque sexu.

Sinus lachrymales exigui, distincti.

Fossæ interdigitales magnæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ duæ.

Typus est Bubalus Mauritanicus (Ant. Bubalus).

8. ORYX.

Cornua in utroque sexu.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitules magnæ.

Folliculi inguinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Species sunt O. Capensis (Ant. Oryx), Leucoryx, Leucophæa, &c.

9. Bos.

Cornua in utroque sexu.

Sinus lachrymales nulli.

Fossæ interdigitales nullæ.

Folliculi inquinales nulli.

Mammæ quatuor.

Typus est Bos Taurus.

"I have here confined myself strictly to generic characters; the synonyma and discrimination of species will form the subject of a future monograph; in the mean time, with the assistance of the Article Antelofe in the Penny Cyclopædia, or, with the proper corrections, of Col. Smith's Treatise on the Ruminants in the fourth volume of Griffith's Translation of the 'Règne Animal,' the student will have no difficulty in referring any particular species to its appropriate genus. He will thus be enabled to judge of the correctness or incorrectness of the affinities here indicated, and consequently to form a tolerable estimate of the value of the characters by which I propose to distinguish the genera of ruminating animals; and indeed it is principally from the wish to excite the attention of zoologists to more extensive observation than I myself possess, that I have been induced to publish the present analysis of my own investigations in this department of Mammalogy."

Mr. Gould exhibited numerous examples of the genus Strix (as at present restricted), from numerous parts of the globe, including three undescribed species from Australia, which he characterizes as follows:

STRIX CASTANOPS. Str. disco fasciali castaneo, ad marginem saturatiore, et nigro circumdato; corpore suprà alis caudaque lætè rufo-brunneis, plumis singulis fasciis latis saturatè brunneis, dispariter ornatis; capite humerisque maculis sparsis minutis albis; corpore infrà flavescenti-brunneo; lateribus colli corporisque guttis nigris sparsè ornatis; femoribus tibiisque flavo-brunneis pedibus flavescentibus; rostro flavo-fusco.

Long. tot. 18 unc.; rostri, $2\frac{1}{4}$; alæ, 15; caudæ, 7; tarsi, $3\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. In Terrâ Van Diemen.

This is the largest known species of the restricted genus Strix, of which the common Barn Owl is a typical example.

STRIX CYCLOPS. Str. disco fasciali albo, venuste annulo saturate brunneo, circumdato; corpore supra albo; dorso humerisque pallide stramineis, maculis brunneis et albis lentiginosis; primariis, fasciis alternis stramineis brunneisque; pogoniis externis apicibusque lineis brunneis rectis, frequentibus, et retortis; caudd albd fasciis brunneis; interstitiis albis brunneo crebre guttatis, corpore infrd albo, maculis brunneis; femoribus tarsisque albis; pedibus flavo-fuscis; rostro livido.

Long. tot. 15 unc.; rostri, $1\frac{5}{4}$; alæ, $11\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, $5\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $2\frac{5}{4}$.

Hab. In Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

This is one of the most beautiful species of the genus.

STRIX DELICATULUS. Str. disco fasciali albo, margine stramined circumdato; corpore suprà pallidè cano-fusco, flavo tincto, notis nigricantibus et albidis intermixtis delicatulis frequentibusque ornato; alis pullidè fulvis, fasciis lineisque rectis retortis, pallide brunneis; primariis ad apicem guttd albd notatis; caudæ rectricibus quoad colorem remiges fingentibus at guttd apicali albd obscuriore; corpore infrà albo; pectore lateribusque maculis brunnescentibus sparsè notatis; femoribus tibiisque albis; pedibus flavescentibus rostro livido.

Long. tot. 14 unc.; rostri, 13/4; alæ, 11; caudæ, 4; tarsi, 21/2.

Hab. În Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

This species in some respects very closely resembles the common British Owl, St. flammea; but it has a longer bill, and is considerably smaller.

December 27th, 1836.

Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

The remainder of M. F. Cuvier's Paper on the *Jerboas* and *Gerbillas* was read.

M. Cuvier commences this memoir with observing that his attention has been particularly directed to the *Rodentia*, with a view of arriving at a natural classification of the numerous species composing that order, among which considerable confusion had hitherto prevailed, particularly in the genera *Dipus* and *Gerbillus*, the relations of which to other allied groups have been but very imperfectly un-

derstood by previous writers.

The species included in the genus *Dipus* have been formed by M. Lichtenstein into three divisions, which are distinguished by the absence and number of rudimentary toes upon the hind feet. In the first section are placed those with three toes, all perfectly formed; in the second, those with four, one of which is rudimentary; and in the third, those with five, two of these being rudimentary. M. Cuvier states that he is unacquainted with the second division of M. Lichtenstein, but in the examination of the species belonging to the first, in addition to the absence of rudimentary toes, he finds they are also distinguished from those of the third by the form of the teeth, and the osteological characters of the head. These points of difference he considers of sufficient importance to justify his making a distinct genus for the *Jerboas* with five toes, adopting the name *Allactaga*, given by Pallas to a species, as the common generic appellation.

"We know," observes M. Cuvier, "that the three principal toes of the Allactagas, as well as the three only toes of the Jerboas, are articulated to a single metatarsal bone, and that the two rudimentary toes of the first genus have each their metatarsal bone; whence it results that the penultimate segment of the foot is composed of three bones in the Allactagas, and of one only in the Jerboas. The incisors of the Allactagas are simple, whilst those in the upper-jaw of the Jerboas are divided longitudinally by a furrow. The molars of the latter genus are complicated in form, and but little resemble those of the former. They are four in number in the upper-jaw, and three in the lower, but the first in the upper is a small rudimentary tooth,

which probably disappears in aged individuals."

The structure of the grinding teeth is then described in detail, and

illustrated by drawings which accompanied the paper.

"The general structure of the head of the Allactagas and Jerboas is evidently the same, and is characterized by the large size of the cranium, the shortness of the muzzle, and above all by the magnitude of the suborbital foramina. The cranium of the Jerboa is distinguished by its great breadth posteriorly resulting from the enormous development of the tympanic bone, which extends beyond the occi-

pital posteriorly and laterally as far as the zygomatic arch, which is by no means the case in the *Allactagas*, where all the osseous parts of the ear are of moderate dimensions. Another differential character between the two genera, is presented by the maxillary arch, which circumscribes externally the suborbital foramina, and which, in the *Allactagas*, may be said to be linear, and presenting a very limited surface for the attachment of muscles. Lastly, we may note a difference in the relative development of the jaws, the lower being comparatively much shorter in the *Allactagas* than in the *Jerboas*."

The author then proceeds to describe a new species of Allactaga, a native of Barbary, for which he proposes the name of A. arundinis. Its length from the origin of the tail to the end of the muzzle, 5 inches; length of the tail, 5 inches and 2 or 3 lines; of the ears, 1 inch; length of the tarsi from the heel to the extremity of the toes, 22 lines. All the upper parts of the body are of a beautiful greyish yellow, with yellowish sides and tail of the same colour, terminated by a tuft of a blackish brown at its origin, and white at the extremity. The sides of the cheek, the ventral surface of the body, and the internal limbs are white; large brown moustaches adorn the sides of the muzzle. The incisors are white and entire, the ears almost naked.

M. Cuvier next proceeds to consider the characters and affinities of the genera Gerbillus and Meriones, and enters into a critical examination of all the species referred to that group. To these he adds another species, the habits of which he details, and describes at length under the name of G. Burtoni. The species which he thus includes are, 1st, G. Egyptiacus, syn. Dipus Gerbillus, Meriones quadrimaculatus, Ehrenberg; 2nd, Gerbillus pyramidum, syn. Dipus pyramidum Geoff., Meriones robustus Rupp.; 3rd, G. pygargus, syn. Meriones Gerbillus, Rupp.; 4th, G. Nidicus, syn. Dipus Nidicus, Hardwicke; 5th, G. Africanus, syn. Meriones Schlegelii Smutz., G. Afra Gray; 6th, G. brevi-caudatus; 7th, G. Otaria; 8th, G. Burtoni. The author enters into detailed descriptions of each of these species from original M. Cuvier lastly considers the affinities of the Gerbillas and Allactagas to the Gerboas, and concludes that the Gerbillas have a much nearer affinity to the Murida.

Mr. Gould exhibited to the Meeting all the species from which the drawings had been taken for the first part of his new work on the Birds of Australia, among which were several new and very remarkable forms. The following hitherto undescribed genera and species were named and characterized.

Ocypterus superciliosus. Oc. facie, guld, pectoreque nigrescentigriseis; lined superciliari albá ad basin rostri excurrente; summo capite, corpore superiore alisque fuliginosis; abdomine crissoque castaneis; rectricibus griseo-fuliginosis, ad apicem albescentibus, intermediis duabus exceptis; rostro plumbeo, ad apicem nigro; pedibus plumbeis.

Long. tot. 7 unc.; rostri, 1; alæ, $4\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ, 3; tarsi, $\frac{5}{4}$. Hab. In Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

Vanga cinerra. Mas. Vang. capite et nuchd nigris loro albo; dorso, humeris et uropygio griseis; tectricibus caudæ albis, rectricibus caudæ nigris, internè ad apicem albis, duabus intermediis exceptis, secondariis in medio, tectricibus majoribus, guld et corpore subtùs, albis; rostro ad busin plumbeo, ad apicem nigro; pedibus nigris. Long. tot. 12½ unc.; rostri, 1½; alæ, 6; caudæ, 5½; tarsi, 1¼. Hab. In Terra Van Diemen.

Vanga nigrogularis. Mas. Vang. capite, collo, et pectore nigris; torque nuchali, ptilis, pteromatum striga longitudinali, dorso imo, uropygio, abdomine, crisso, rectricumque lateralium apicibus albis; rectricibus duabus, intermediis omnino nigris; rostro ad basin plumbeo in nigrum transcunte; pedibus nigris.

From. vel mas jun.? Partibus que in mare nigris in hoc cinerascentibrunneis, vitta occipitali ferè obsoleta; gula pectoreque fulvo

brunneis; partibus reliquis ut in mare adulto.

Long. tot. 131 unc.; rostri, 15; alæ, 7; caudæ, 6; tarsi, 11. Hab. In Nova Cambria Australi.

STRUTHIDEA.

Rostrum validum, robustum, tumidum, suprà arcuatum, altitudine latitudinem excellente; gonyde angulato; naribus rotundatis opertis; mandibulă inferiore ad basin incrassată, et in genas pereunte; alæ mediocres, rotundatæ; remige primo brevi, quarto et quinto longissimis, remigibus secundariis elongatis et latis; tarsi mediocri longitudine et robusti, anticè scutellati, posticè plani; digitis subvalidis; pollice medio digito breviore et validiore.

STRUTHIDEA CINERRA. Struth. capite, collo, partibusque corporis inferioribus griseis; singulis plumis ad marginem pallidioribus; alis brunneis; rectricibus caudæ nigris, metallicè viridi nitentibus; rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tot. 11 unc.; rostri, \$; alæ, 51; caudæ, 6; tarsi, 11.

Hab. In Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

TROPIDORHYNCHUS CITREOGULARIS. Trop. summo capite, dorso, uropygio, alis, cauddque brunneis, his pallidioribus; pogoniis externis remigum secundariorum olivaceo marginatis; caudd ad apicem grised; nuchd ac lateribus colli albescenti-griseis; mandibuld inferiori ad basin notdque nudd pone oculos cæruleis; guld et lateribus pectoris citreis; abdomine pallidè griseo; rostro nigro; pedibus plumbeis.

Long. tot. 101 unc.; rostri, 11; alæ, 51; caudæ, 41; tarsi, 11.

Hab. In Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

MELIPHAGA PENICILLATA. Mel. facie plumisque auricularibus favidis; pone has penicillá sericed albá oriente; corpore superiore flavescenti-griseo; pogoniis remigum externis latioribus; corpore subtùs pallidè brunnescenti-cinereo; rostro pedibusque brunneis.

Long. tot. 6½ unc.; rostri, ½; ale, 3; caudæ, 3; tarsi, ½.

Hab. In Nova Cambria Australi.

MELIPHAGA SERICHA. Mel. summo capite, guld, et regione circa oculos nigris; strigd frontali albd supra oculos tendente; penicilla pilosa alba, genas auresque tegente; dorso brunnescenti-cinereo, longitudinaliter nigro striato; corpore subtùs albo singulis plumis in medio longitudinaliter nigris; alis brunnescenti-nigris, pogoniis remigum externis, læte flavidis; rectricibus caudæ brunneis, pogoniis ad marginem flavescentibus; rostro pedibusque nigris.

Long. tot. $6\frac{1}{4}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{7}{8}$; alæ, $2\frac{5}{4}$; caudæ, $2\frac{5}{8}$; tarsi, $\frac{7}{4}$.

Hab. In Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

HÆMATOPS.

Rostrum capite brevius, levitèr arcuatum, acutum, sine denticulo ad apicem; compressiusculum: naribus longitudinalibus, et operculo tectis, setis nullis ad rictum: alæ mediocres, remige primo brevi, tertio et quarto ferè æqualibus et longissimis: cauda mediocri, æquali vel leviter forficata: tarsi mediocres, sub validi halluce et ungue, digitum medium et unguem æquantibus; digitis externis longitudine paribus; nævi sanguinolenti supra oculos.

HEMATOPS VALIDIBOSTEIS. Hæm. summo capite splendide nigro, vitta occipitali alba, pone oculos oriente; plumis auricularibus, mento, et nucha nigris; summo corpore olivaceo, griseo lavato; uropygio rectricumque pogoniis externis lætioribus; alis brunneis, olivaceo leviter tinctis; gula alba, corpore subtus brunnescentigriseo; rostro nigro, et ad apicem depressiusculo; pedibus carnosis.

Long. tot. 6 $\frac{\pi}{2}$ unc.; rostri, $\frac{\pi}{4}$; alæ, $3\frac{\pi}{2}$; caudæ, 3; tarsi, $\frac{\pi}{8}$. Hab. In Terra Van Diemen.

Hamatoff Gularis. Hæm. summo capite nigro, vittd occipitali albd pone oculos oriente; plumis auricularibus et nuchd nigris; dorso et uropygio aurato-olivaceis; alis caudaque brunneis; guld cinerascenti-albd, strigd nigrd per mediam partem tendente; corpore subtùs cinerascenti-brunneo; rostro nigro; pedibus pallidè brunneis.

Long. tot. 6 unc.; rostri, $\frac{\pi}{4}$; alæ, $3\frac{\pi}{8}$; caudæ, $2\frac{\pi}{4}$; tarsi, $\frac{\pi}{8}$. Hab. In Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

NEOMORPHA,

Rostrum longitudine caput excellens ad latera compressum, arcuatum, corneum, solidum, acutum ad apicem denticulo; nares opertæ, in sulco basali; carina mandibulæ superioris in pontem tendente; lingua dura, gracilis, ad apicem setosa; anguli oris carunculis caraeis pendentibus conferti; alæ ; pedes ; cauda corpus longitudine æquans.

NEOMORPHA ACUTIEOSTRIB. Neom. rostro gracili, elongato, arcuato, colore corneo, in plumbeum ad basin transeunte; carunculis lætè aurantiacis; corpore toto nigro; caudd largè ad apicem albd. Long. tot. 16½ unc.; rostri, 3½; alæ, —; caudæ, 7; tarsi, —.

NEOMORPHA CRASSIROSTRIS. Neom. rostro subarcuato, valido, acuto, corneo colore, in plumbeum ad basin transeunte; corpore

nigro; caudd large ad apicem albd.

Long. tot. $17\frac{1}{2}$ unc.; rostri, $2\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, —; caudæ, $7\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, —. Remark. It is to be regretted that the only examples known of both these species are imperfect, wanting the feet and the greater portion of the wings: they form a part of the Zoological Society's collection, and were obtained from the captain of a vessel, who had received them from a native chief in New Zealand.

Podicers gullable. Pod. summo capite, et nuchd, intensè nigrescenti-brunneis, olivaceo lavatis; gutture genisque nigris; strigd castaned pone oculos oriente et per latera colli excurrente; corpore suprà nigrescenti-brunneo; tectricibus alæ secundariis albo marginatis, hoc colore vittam transversam faciente; collo imo, pectore et corpore subtùs argenteo-griseis, hoc colore in brunneum ad latera transeunte; rostro et pedibus nigris.

Long. tot. 10 unc.; rostro, $1\frac{1}{4}$; alæ, $4\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. In Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

Podicers Nestor. Pod. capite plumis elongatis sericeis albis induto; gutture et occipite nigris; corpore suprà intense brunneo, subtùs argenteo-griseo, ad latera brunneo lavato; rostro nigro ad apicem pallidiore; tarsis olivaceo-nigris.

Long. tot. 9 unc.; rostri, 1; alæ, $4\frac{1}{4}$; tarsi, $1\frac{3}{8}$.

Hab. In Terrâ Van Diemen et in Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

CALODERA.*

- Rostrum validum, arcuatum, capite brevius, naribus basalibus rotundatis, ferè apertis, mandibulâ superiore ad apicem levitèr indentatâ marginibus sulcatis; margine mandibulæ inferioris in sulcum superioris recepto; ales mediocres, remige primo brevissimo; tarsi validi, antrorsim scutellati, pollice cum digito interno conjuncto, hôc ejusque ungue, validis, at medio digito ungueque, brevioribus; ungues incurvati et acuti; cauda mediocris, penitùs æqualis.
- The species belonging to the genus Calodera, are characterized at page 106.

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INDEX.

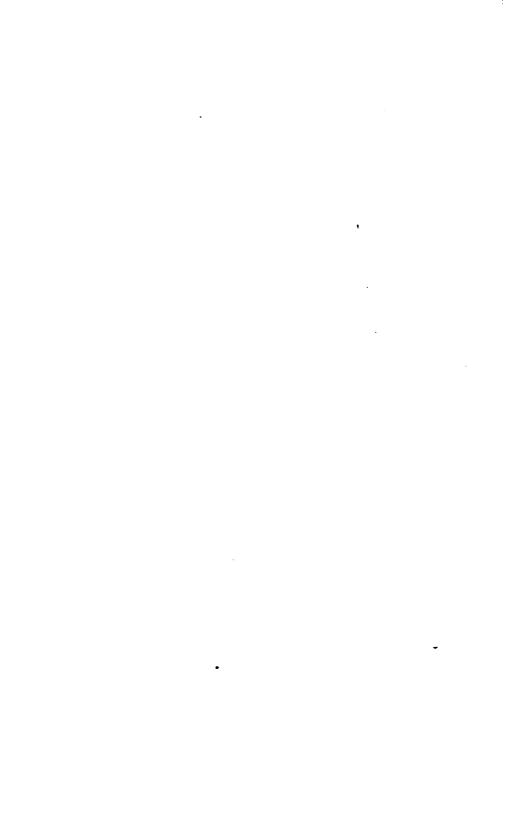
The names of New Species and of Species newly characterized are printed in Roman Characters: those of Species previously known, but respecting which novel information is given, in *Italics*: those of species respecting which Anatomical Observations are made, in Capitals.

Page.	Page.
Actinodura, n. g., Gould 17	Camelopardalis, Linn 134
Egertoni, Gould 18	Giraffa, Linn 9 Camelus, Linn 133
Alces, Ill 135	Camelus, Linn
Allactaga, n. g., F. Cuvier 141	Canis Himalaicus, Ogilb 163
arundinis, F. Cuvier 142	Capra, Linn 137
Amadina Castanotis, Gould 105	Capra, Linn. 137 Caprea, n. g., Ogilb. 135
cincta, Gould 105	Capreolus, n. g., Ogilb 136
modesta, Gould 105	Capricornis, n. g., Ogilb 139
ruficauda, Gould 106	Capros Aper, La Cep 54
Anas marmorata, Tem 59	Cephalopoda
Anthropoides paradisæus, Bechst. 30	Cercoleptes brachyotus, Mart 83
Antilope, Pall 137	megalotus, <i>Mart.</i> 83
adenota, H. Smith 103	Cervus, Linn
Cervicapra, Pall 34	Aristotelis, Cuv 39
Eurycerus, Ogilb 120	Barhaiya, <i>Hodg</i> 46
Forfex, H. Smith 103	Muntjac, Gmel 66
hob, <i>Ogilb</i> 102	Charadrius Morinellus, Linn 1
Koba, Ogilb 102	Chironectes Yapock, Desm 56
Korrigum, Ogilb 103	Colluricincla fusca, Gould 6
montana, Rüpp 3	Conus Adamsonii, Brod 44
palmata, H. Smith 121	Corvus curvirostris, Gould 18
Philantomba, Ogilb 121	pectoralis, Gould 18
Sumatrensis Desm 121	CORYTHAIX BUFFONII, Vaill 32
Aplonis, n. g., Gould	Cracticus fuliginosus, Gould 106
fusca, Gould 73	hypoleucus, Gould 100
marginata, Gould 73	Cranchia Bonelliana, Fér 20
Argonauta Argo, Linn 102	cardioptera, Peron 26
hians, Lam 22	minima, Fér 20
rufa, Owen 23	scabra, Leach 20
Auchenia, Ill 134	Crax rubra, Linn
Bos, Linn	Cursorius rufus, Gould 81
Bubalus, n. g., Ogilb	CYNICTIS MELANURUS, Mart 56
Bulinus Crichtoni, Brod 44	Cynogale, n. g., Gray 88
inflatus, Brod 45	Bennettii, Gray 88
pusio, <i>Brod</i>	Cyprinus carpio, Linn 109
Calliope, n. g., Ogilb	Dicholophus cristatus, Ill 29
Calodera n. g., Gould 145	Dipodidæ 127
maculata, Gould 106	Dipus, Schreb 141
Calyptorhynchus Naso, Gould 106	Edolius Chrishna, Gould 5

Page.	Page.
Edolius grandis, Gould 5	Moschus Moschiferus, Linn 68
Rangoonensis, Gould 5	pygmæus, Linn 66
viridescens, Gould 6	Stanleyanus, Gray 65
Emberiza cinerea, Strickl 99	Mulinia, n. g., Gray 104
Enhydra marina, Flem 59	Myrmecobius, n. g., Waterhouse . 69
Felis Diardi, Cuv 107	fasciatus, Waterh. 69, 132
marmorata, Mart 107	Neomorpha, n. g., Gould 145
Tigris, Linn 123	acutirostris, Gould 145
Fringilla serinus, Linn 59	crassirostris, Gould 145
Gallinago heterura, Hodg 8	Octodon Cumingii, Benn 70
media, Ray 8	Octopus semipalmatus, Owen 22
nemoricola, Hodg 8	Ocypterus superciliosus, Gould 142
	Ocythoë
Gallinula ventralis, Gould 85	Cranchii, Leach 19
Gazella, n. g., Ogilb 137	Orpheus modulator, Gould 6
Geocichla rubicola, Gould 7	Ortyx ocellatus, Gould 75
Gerbillus, Desm	Oryx, n. g., Ogilb 139
Glaucus hexapterygius, Cuv 113	Ovibos, De Blainv 137
Gnathodon, Gray 104	Ovis, Linn 137
Gnathostoma, n. g., Owen 125	Oxyura Australis, Gould 85
spinigerum, Owen 125	Paradoxornis, n. g., Gould 17
Hæmatops, n. g., Gould 144	flavirostris, Gould. 17
gularis, Gould 144	Paradoxurus leucomystax, Gray. 88
validirostris, Gould 144	Perameles Lagotis, Reid 129
Haliætus albicilla, Sav 49	Petroica Phœnicea, Gould 105
Herpestes brachyurus, Gray 88	PHALANGISTA VULPINA, Cuv 2
Hinnulus, n. g., Ogilb 136	PHASCOLARCTOS FUSCUS, Desm 109
	Prince of the Works Works Des 40
Ixalus, n. g., Ogilb 135	Phascolomys Wombat, Per 49
Probaton, Ogilb 119	Physeter macrocephalus, La Cep. 127
Ixos leucotis, Gould6	Pipra squalida, Burton 113
Kemas, n. g., <i>Ogilb</i> 138	Plyctolophus productus, Gould 19
Kittacincla, n. g., Gould 7	Podiceps gularis, Gould 145
Lepus Californica, Gray 88	Nestor, Gould 145
Douglasii, Gray 88	Porpita 116
longicaudata, Gray 88	Prionites coeruliceps, Gould 18
Loligo corolliflora, Til 21	Prox, n. g., Ogilb
	Psittacus augustus, Vig 80
Pealii, Leach 21	Pteromys Guildingii, Vig 80
Macropus penicillatus, Gray 41	albiventer, Gray 88
Macroramphus griseus, Leach 1	Leachii, Gray 88
Mactra Sprengleri, Linn 104	melanotis, Gray 88
Madoqua, n. g., Ogilb 137	Purpura Gravesii, Brod 44
Mazama, n. g., Ogilb 137	Rostellaria pes Pelicani, Lam 46
Meliphaga penicillata, Gould 143	Sciurus Douglasii, Gray 88
sericea, Gould 144	
Meriones, Ill142	Scytalopus, n. g., Gould 89
Micetes seniculus, Desm 25	albogularis, Gould 90
Moschus, Linn 135	fuscus, Gould 89
Americanus, Linn 66	Simia Morio, Owen 92
delicatulus, Shaw 66	Satyrus, Linn 91
fulviventer, Gray 65	TROGLODYTES, Linn 41
Griffithii, Fisch 66	Wurmbii, Fisch 91
Javanicus, Gmel 64	Spondulus albidus Read 49
	Spondylus albidus, Brod 43
Kanchil, Raff 64	Strix castinops, Gould 140
Meminna, Linn 63	Cyclops, Gould 140

Page.	Page.
Strix delicatulus, Gould 140	Troglodytes leucogastra, Gould . 89
Struthidea, n. g., Gould 143	Magellanicus, Gould 88
cinerea, Gould 143	Trogon pavoninus, Spix 12
Sylvia brevirostris, Strickl 98	resplendens, Gould 12
Sylvicapra, n. g., Ógilb 138	Tropidorhynchus citreogularis,
Tamatia bicincta, Gould 80	Gould 143
Tarandus, n. g., Ogilb 135	Tubularia gracilis, Harv 54
Testudo Índica, Linn 59	indivisa, Ellis 54
Thryothorus guttatus, Gould 89	Turdus macrourus, Lath 7
Tiliqua Fernandi, Burton 62	Vanga cinerea, Gould 143
Tinamotis, n. g., Vig 79	nigrogularis, Gould 143
Pentlandii, Vig 79	Velella limbosa, Lam 79
Torpedo vulgaris, Flem 109	Vespertilionidæ 46
Tragelaphus, n. g., Ogilb 138	Voluta Beckii, Brod 43
Tragopon Temminckii, Gray 59	concinna, <i>Brod</i> 43
Tragulus, Gray, n. div 63	Vultur Papa, Linn 107
Tragulus, n. g., Ogilb 138	Zosterops albogularis, Gould 75
Trichophorus flaveolus, Gould 6	tenuirostris, Gould 76

THE END.





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