

place side by side with the last-mentioned species, in the genus *Haptophrya*; and on account of its large size I name it *H. gigantea*.—*Comptes Rendus*, May 5, 1879, p. 921.

*Trichinosis in a Hippopotamus.* By M. E. HECKEL.

M. Heckel describes some observations made by him upon a young Hippopotamus, about two years old, which died on the 10th of May last in the zoological garden of Marseilles, having been received from Egypt about four months before. The animal was in bad health all the time of its residence at Marseilles; and its skin showed an eruption of confluent boils. When removed, the skin showed several lesions in the shape of deep ulcerations, which, having originated around a hair, had attacked the bulb, and thus formed a canal leading generally into a great purulent cavity. Smaller ulcerations led into smaller cavities bounded by a proper membrane, like true cysts, and filled with creamy pus. The examination of a section of the muscular tissue surrounding one of these cysts showed it to contain great numbers of *Trichina*-cysts, resembling those of *Trichina spiralis*, with which also the enclosed worm agreed. The cysts, however, seemed to be much more developed than in the pig or in man.

Upon this curious and interesting fact the author has the following remarks:—"I am ignorant," he says, "what relations may exist between the presence, in the same animal, of *Trichina* and of enormous cysts filled with pus; but the fact indicated by me appears to possess some interest . . . because it seems to prove that the Pachyderms, more than other animals, are exposed to the spontaneous development of this terrible parasite—an important point which may serve to throw some light upon its hitherto unknown migrations. It has been attempted to explain the frequency of the *Trichina* in the pig, by the consideration of the voracity and filthy habits of that animal. The fact to which I now call attention seems to protest against this opinion; for the hippopotamus by no means shares in the mode of existence and the tastes of the pig; and we can hardly suppose that captivity, by the special diet which accompanies it, could have a marked influence upon the development of the Nematoid worm."—*Comptes Rendus*, June 2, 1879, p. 1139.

*On the Apparatus of Sound in some South-American Fishes.*

By M. W. SORESENSEN.

During my residence, in 1877 and 1878, at the mouth of the Riacho del Oro, in the Rio Paraguay, I was enabled to make some investigations into the mode in which several fishes of these rivers, especially those of the families Siluroidei and Characini, produce peculiar sounds. The swimming-bladder is the principal organ