November 12, 1844.

Professor Owen, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Extract of a letter from the President, the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, to the Secretary:—

“Knowsley, Oct. 17.—A circumstance has just occurred here which I cannot help flattering myself will tend to throw light upon a matter in the history of the *Macropodidae* which has been often disputed. I allude to the manner in which the young animal after birth attains its lodgement in the mother’s pouch.

“My superintendent tells me that one of our female Bettongias was seen to part with a young one. She was observed to place herself erect in one of the angles of the place where she was confined, backing as it were into the corner, and in this situation produced the young one, which after its birth she took up in her fore-paws and deposited in the pouch. This latter process the superintendent witnessed himself.

“She had received the male so lately as the 19th of September, and the parturition took place on the 16th of October. We will take particular notice when the young quits the pouch.

“Of course this is not a decisive proof that all of the tribe adopt the same process, yet I think we may fairly conclude from analogy that they do.”

“Oct. 19.—It may be observed that the period of utero-gestation is a very short one, even under a month. Something peculiar in the manner of the animal placing herself in the corner was observed by the person who fed her, he stopped and watched her, and thus witnessed the birth, immediately after which she turned round to the young one, and getting it up in her fore-paws, applied them to the mouth of the pouch, opened it with them, and as soon as the little one was deposited she put her head in after it; when her nose reappeared it was rather stained with blood. In five minutes she was jumping about the place as if nothing had happened.”

A specimen of *Chamaleon* from the Cape of Good Hope was exhibited by Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Weaver, of Birmingham, exhibited and presented to the Society specimens of the following insects:—*Hipparchia Melampus**, *Leucaria littoralis*, *Sperantia sylvaria*, *Cleodora* — ?

* Taken on the mountains of Perthshire, about 3000 feet above the level of the sea.