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Note on the number of cervical Vertebrae in *Dinornis robustus*

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Venus, f. 4). I have always understood that Dr. Gray's reference of the "pipi" (on the authority of Sinclair and Dieffenbach) to *Mesodesma Chemnitzii*, Deshayes (Wood's Cat. *Mastra*, f. 24), was the correct one.

20 Huntly Gardens, Glasgow,
Nov. 15, 1878.

Note on the Number of Cervical Vertebrae in Dinornis robustus.

By Prof. F. W. HURTON, of the Otago University.

Last July a magnificent skeleton of *Dinornis robustus*, found in the Shag valley, was presented to the Otago Museum by A. W. Bell, Esq. This skeleton is complete, with the exception of the cranium, first, second, third, and sixth cervical vertebrae, a few caudal vertebrae, two left ribs, and the metatarsal of the left hallux.

The cervical vertebrae are twenty-one in number (including the four that are missing), and the dorsal are six, or twenty-seven in all. The fifth is without any median hypapophysis. The neural spine becomes single on the nineteenth; the hypapophyses become single on the twentieth. The hypapophyses are furthest apart on the fifteenth. It thus appears that the number of vertebrae in the long-legged species of Moa was the same as in the short-legged, in which I have already shown (*Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* 1878, 5th series, vol. i. p. 407) the number of cervical vertebrae to be twenty or twenty-one.

A remarkable peculiarity in this specimen is that the neural spine is single on the fourth and fifth cervicals. There are six ribs on each side, of which the third and fourth alone bear sternal ribs. There is no appearance of any floating sternal rib as in *D. elephantopus*. The proximal phalanx of the hallux is articulated to the ungual phalanx, but not to the metatarsal of the hallux, which is detached.

There is in the Museum collection the leg and foot of a specimen of *D. casuarinus*, in which the metatarsal of the hallux is preceded by another bone. This bone is thin, flat, and triangular in shape, its apex being distal and completely detached from the other metatarsals. Whether it is a continuation of the metatarsal, or whether it represents the calcaneum, I am uncertain.

On the Affinities of the Coleopterous Genus Hades, Thomson (Heteromera, Nilionidae). By CHARLES O. WATERHOUSE.

I have just been referring to M. Thomson's monograph of the family Nilionidae*; and seeing that the new genus *Hades* was founded on a Javan insect received from Dr. Horsfield, I at once looked at the Horsfield collection of Javan Coleoptera in this museum, and was glad to find two specimens which are undoubtedly

* 'Musée Scientifique,' 1860, p. 13.