

February 27, 1844.

Professor Owen in the Chair.

The Secretary read communications from G. W. A. Drummond Hay, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Tangier, and Capt. Fayrer, H.M.S. 'Tenedos,' Bermuda (both Corresponding Members); the latter was accompanied by two specimens of the *Strix Nyctea*, which Capt. Fayrer presented to the Society.

Mr. Lovell Reeve described seven new species of *Glaucanome*, a genus of fluvio-marine Mollusks of the family *Solenacea*.

The genus *Glaucanome* was introduced some years since by Mr. J. E. Gray in his 'Spicilegium Zoologica,' with the description of a single species collected by John Reeves, Esq. in China. Another species appears to have been described by the great author of the 'Systema Naturæ' under the title of *Solen virens*, the original examples of which are still preserved in the collection of the Linnæan Society; and I have now the pleasure of exhibiting seven new species, which by their characters and habits add materially to the generic importance of the group.

The *Glaucanomes* are of a light semi-perlaceous structure, covered with a thin light green horny epidermis, which in some species is very peculiarly wrinkled or shrivelled, and inflected over the margin, and their hinge is composed of three irregular forked teeth in each valve, some of which are generally bifid. They live in brackish water (in the mud) in the mouths of rivers at their confluence with the sea, and have only been found as yet in the Eastern hemisphere. Out of nine species with which we are now acquainted, the localities of eight are known to be as follows: one inhabits the rivers of China; one the Ganges and probably other rivers of India; three inhabit certain rivers running into the bay of Manila; and three, certain small rivers in the islands of Zebu, Negros and Luzon, of the Philippines; the last six having been collected in those particular localities by H. Cuming, Esq.

The place selected by Mr. Gray for the genus *Glaucanome* in the natural system was in his family of the *Veneridæ*; it appears to me, however, to exhibit a much stronger affinity with the *Solenacea*; in my arrangement in the 'Conchologia Systematica,' I referred it to that family, and I am happy to say that the propriety of this removal has been subsequently confirmed.

The following are descriptions of the seven new species:—

1. *GLAUCANOME RUGOSA*. *Glauc. testâ elongato-oblongâ, rugosâ, circiter umbones plus minusve erosâ, lateribus rotundatis; epidermide peculiariter corrugatâ, latere postico subobsoletè angulatò.*
Conch. Icon. pl. 1. f. 4. *a* and *b*.

Hab. The mouths of rivers running into the bay of Manila.

This species, which is by far the largest of the genus, presents a very peculiar arrangement of the epidermis. Over about one-third of the length of the shell from the posterior extremity, the epidermis lies in narrow ridges parallel with the lines of growth; these ridges are then suddenly directed towards the umbones, and become dispersed over the remaining portion of the shell in the form of shrivelled wrinkles scattered in the contrary direction.

2. *GLAUCONOME STRAMINEA.* *Glauc. testâ subelongato-ovatâ, circiter umbones erosâ, latere antico rotundato, postico subattenuato, leviter angulato, rotundato; epidermide nitidâ, viridescente-stramineâ, angulum super corrugatâ.*

Conch. Icon. pl. 1. f. 2.

Hab. Mouths of rivers running into the bay of Manila.

A light delicate straw-coloured shell, slightly angulated on the posterior side, with the epidermis lying on the angle in wrinkles.

3. *GLAUCONOME RADIATA.* *Glauc. testâ oblongo-ovatâ, compressiusculâ, corned; purpureo-radiatâ; epidermide viridescente prope marginem indutâ, lateribus rotundatis, postico subacuminato.*

Conch. Icon. pl. 1. f. 3.

Hab. Mouth of a small river at San Nicolas, island of Zebu, Philippines.

This is a very pretty species, vividly rayed inside and outside with violet-purple.

4. *GLAUCONOME CORRUGATA.* *Glauc. testâ elongato-ovatâ, subtilissimè striatâ, circiter umbones erosâ, lateribus rotundatis, postico acuminato-angulato; epidermide angulum super corrugatâ, intus vividè purpureo-radiatâ.*

Conch. Icon. pl. 1. f. 6.

Hab. Mouths of rivers running into the bay of Manila.

The posterior side of this species is more elongately angled than that of any other; the epidermis is wrinkled over the posterior half of the shell, and the interior is vividly rayed with purple.

5. *GLAUCONOME ANGULATA.* *Glauc. testâ elongato-oblongâ, striatâ, circiter umbones plus minusve erosâ, latere antico rotundato, postico angulato, carinâ obtusâ ab umbonibus ad marginem decurrente.*

Conch. Icon. pl. 1. f. 5.

Hab. Mouth of a small river at Jinigaran, island of Negros, Philippines. Rather a dingy, short, angulated species.

6. *GLAUCONOME CURTA.* *Glauc. testâ ovatâ, curtâ, tenui, subtilissimè striatâ, ad umbones paululùm erosâ, lateribus rotundatis, intus cæruleo-carneo tinctâ.*

Conch. Icon. pl. 1. f. 7.

Hab. Mouth of a river in Agoo, province of Pangasinan, island of Luzon, Philippines.

A very delicate species, with a fine smooth silken epidermis, short,

and but very faintly angulated on the posterior side. Interior rich purple.

7. *GLAUCONOME CEREÆ*. *Glauc. testâ oblongo-ovatâ, pallidè stramineâ, subtilissimè striatâ, lateribus rotundatis, postico subangulato-attenuato.*

Conch. Icon. pl. 1. f. 8.

Hab. Mouth of the Ganges.

A very delicate pale straw-coloured shell, with a smooth silken epidermis.

“Description of new species of Shells, by Mr. Hinds.”

Six species of *Triton*, from the collection of Sir Edward Belcher, C.B.

TRITON, Montfort.

1. *TRITON VESTITUS*. *Tr. testâ ovatâ, solidâ, fuscâ; anfractibus rotundatis, transversim striatis, lineis longitudinalibus decussantibus præcipuè spiræ nodulosis, ultimo albo fasciato; aperturâ elongatè ovali; labro incrassato, intus dentibus geminis albis, undiquè purpurascentibus; columellâ purpurascente vel nigrâ, plicis albis varicosâ; fauce albâ; epidermide valdè lamellosâ, pilis nigris numerosis indutâ. Axis 27 lin.*

Hab. Realejo, gulf of Nicoya, and bay of Honda, west coast of America.

2. *TRITON BRACTEATUS*. *Tr. testâ ovatâ, elongatâ, longitrorsum costatâ, transversim striatâ, maculis parvis nigris seriatim dispositis ornatâ; spirâ aperturam superante; aperturâ parvâ, albâ, denticulatâ; canali breviusculo. Axis 8 lin.*

Hab. Marquesas; New Ireland; Straits of Malacca: on the shores and in seventeen fathoms, mud.

3. *TRITON TRUNCATUS*. *Tr. testâ solidâ, fulvâ, fusco nebulosâ, truncatâ, longitrorsum costatâ, striis decussantibus; costis rotundatis, confertis, anfractu ultimo pallidè fasciato; aperturâ albâ, denticulatâ; canali breviusculo. Axis 6 lin.*

Hab. New Ireland; among the coarse sand of the shore.

4. *TRITON ANTIQUATUS*. *Tr. testâ elongatâ, turritâ, subcylindraceâ, lineis decussantibus textili, costis propè suturam evanidis; spirâ aperturam duplè vel triplè superante; apice eroso; aperturâ parvâ, subquadratâ, pallidâ; labio interno anticè valdè producto. Axis 10 lin.*

Hab. New Ireland; with the preceding.

5. *TRITON FICTILIS*. *Tr. testâ ovatâ, solidulâ, cinerâ; anfractibus senis rotundatis, longitrorsum obliquè plico-costatis, transversim tenuiter striatis; spirâ aperturam vix superante; aperturâ callosâ, contractatâ, politâ, intus lævigatâ. Axis 7 lin.*

Hab. Lagulhas Bank, Cape of Good Hope; in between fifty and sixty fathoms.

6. TRITON ANOMALUS. *Tr. testâ ovatâ, fusca, longitrorsum costatâ, lineis transversis elevatis cancellatâ; spirâ aperturam aequante; suturâ validâ; evaricosâ; aperturâ ovali, pallidâ; canali breviusculo.* Axis 7 lin.

Hab. Island of Quibo, Veragua; on the sandy shore at low water.

SOLARIUM, Lamarck.

At the sale of the collection of shells of Mr. Imwood, several lots of *Solarium* came into my possession; and as it was a favourite group with this gentleman, he, as might naturally be supposed, had assembled together many very interesting specimens. The full suites of some of the species have enabled me better to draw a line of distinction between them, and has afforded grounds for regarding several of the following as perfectly distinct and hitherto undescribed species. In addition to the above, I have had before me the collections of Sir Edward Belcher and Mr. Cuming, both rich in novelty, but more particularly in the careful and accurate detail of localities and circumstances of habitation. The whole permits me to record fourteen new species in a genus which previously seemed to contain about fifteen recent and forty-nine fossil species.

1. SOLARIUM FORMOSUM. *Sol. testâ orbiculato-conicâ, politâ, fasciatâ; anfractibus subtumidis, supernè sulco unico divisâ, inferioribus levigatis, spirâ plico-striatis, supernè fusco, albo, et atro-fusco deinceps fasciatis, mediò subcorneis; ad basin planulatâ, aperturâ quadratâ; umbilico patulo, crenis rectis, subacutis, fuscatis; areâ umbilicali latâ, sublavigatâ.* Diam. 18, umbilic. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Chemnitz, vol. v. t. 172. f. 1693.

Hab. Amboina. Cab. Hinds.

This fine shell has hitherto, most probably, been considered only as a variety of the well-known species *S. perspectivum*; it is however sufficiently distinct. In shape it is considerably more elevated and conical, and it is ornamented with rich fasciations of brown and white. Near the upper part of each whorl a narrow sulcus separates a narrow portion. The base is flattened and polished; umbilicus moderately dilated, being less so than in *S. perspectivum*, and armed on the margin with a row of straight sharp crenules, on their right faces of a darker brown colour. The umbilical area, or the space between the spirally twisted row of crenules, is smooth, except for the arched striæ of growth.

2. SOLARIUM PLACENTALE. *Sol. testâ discoideâ, pallide fulvâ, levigatâ; spirâ valde depressâ; anfractibus planulatis, ordinatè spiraliter striatis; ad peripheriam obtusè unicarinatâ, subtùs striatâ; carinâ crenulatâ; ad basin subtumidâ; aperturâ triangulari; umbilico valde patulo, crenis tuberculatis subdistantibus armato.*

Hab. Bay of Magdalena, California; in seven fathoms, sand.

Cab. Belcher.

3. SOLARIUM PERDIX. *Sol. testâ conoidè, tenui, levigatâ, pallidâ; anfractibus subtumidis, supernè cingulo unico divisâ, spirâ minutè*

plico-striatis; ad peripheriam angulatâ tricarinatâ, carinâ mediâ prominente, majore, creniferâ; cingulo et curinis maculis rufis subquadratis ornatis; umbilico patulo, crenulis parvis albis cincto.

Alt. 6, diam. 14 lin.

Hab. Ceylon; north-west coast of Australia.

Cab. Cuming and Hinds.

Possesses the general contour of *S. perspectivum*, but is thinner; the whorls are slightly tumid, and furnished above with a flat smooth girdle, ornamented with somewhat distant rufous spots. The most prominent keel is characteristically covered with small tubercular crenulations. When placed on its base the apex is much inclined, and the general direction oblique. The umbilicus is somewhat less patulous than in *S. perspectivum*, and neatly encircled with numerous white and smaller crenations. The umbilical space is destitute of ribs, folds, or keels, bearing alone the marks of the striæ of growth and a thin horny epidermis.

4. *SOLARIUM QUADRICEPS.* *Sol. testâ orbiculato-discoidê; anfractibus quadriseriatim cingulatis; cingulis tuberculis quadratis, planulatis, approximatis instructis, inferiore majore, et cum superiore rufo picto; ad basin tumidâ, areâ medianâ radiatim plicatâ; umbilico patulo, crenis magnis fuscis cincto; areâ umbilicali lævi.*
Alt. 5, diam. 11 lin.

Hab. Bay of Panama; in five fathoms, among mud.

Cab. Belcher.

Very closely allied to *S. granulatum*, from which it will be found to differ in the character and relative proportion of the granular girdles. A single and perhaps rather small specimen was alone obtained, which is somewhat more discoid than the above species; four girdles traverse each whorl, of which the inferior is the largest, and the tubercles closely set, flattened, and obliquely square; the umbilicus is rather more expanded, and the marginal tubercles are of a similar size, but coloured of a reddish brown. *S. quadriceps* is an American shell, and *S. granulatum* an Asiatic.

5. *SOLARIUM ASPERUM.* *Sol. testâ discoidê; spirâ retusâ; anfractibus supernè planulatis, infernè rotundatis, ubiquè cingulis parvis numerosis instructis; cingulis tuberculis parvis asperatis; umbilico valdè patulo; areâ angustâ, lævi.* Alt. $1\frac{1}{2}$, diam. $4\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Straits of Macassar; in eleven fathoms, coarse sand.

Cab. Belcher.

A single dead specimen only was obtained, destitute of colour and choked with sand. It is remarkable from its rounded base and its very expanded umbilicus, which is proportionately larger than in any other species. In *S. perspectivum* the umbilicus is equal to a third of the diameter, but in the present species it is two-fifths.

6. *SOLARIUM DORSUOSUM.* *Sol. testâ conoidê, lævigatâ, solidâ, fuscâ, albo confusè nebulosâ; anfractibus planulatis, spiraliter seriatim sulcatis, spiræ leviter striatis; ad peripheriam sulcis geminis instructâ; basi sulcatâ, versùs centrum subtuberculatâ; umbilico*

patulo, crenis magnis cincto; areâ umbilicali unicastâ; aperturâ subrotundâ, internè bisulcatâ. Alt. 4, diam. $6\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. Puerto Galero, island of Mindoro, Philippines; in seven fathoms, sandy mud.
Cab. Cuming.

7. *SOLARIUM DEALBATUM.* *Sol. testâ conico-trochiformi, albâ; anfractibus planulatis, quadriseriatim granulato-costatis; cingulo ultimo paulo majore, prominulo; umbilico coarctato, crenis parvis instructo; areâ umbilicali multicastâ; aperturâ rotundâ. Alt. 7, diam. 6 lin.*

Hab. Manila. *Cab.* Hinds.

This species may be readily distinguished from *S. variegatum* by its uniform colour and by the several ribs which cross the umbilical space, all of which are of equal size; from *S. cylindraceum* by its decided conical shape, and the characters detailed above observable in the inferior girdle.

It is unquestionable that a sound division of the genus may be effected, by taking *S. variegatum* as the type of a new group; and this opinion rests on the conformation of the foot of the animal, decidedly sessile eyes, and very peculiar operculum of this species. But in trying to effect this I have met with the following genera, all of which have been advanced for sections of the genus as left by Lamarck:—*Omalaxis*, Deshayes; *Bifrontia*, Deshayes; *Helicites*, Schlotheim; *Cirrus*, Sowerby; *Euomphalus*, Sowerby; *Schizostoma*, Bronn; *Solariella*, Searles Wood; *Torinia*, Gray; and not having before me the materials for deciding their respective merits, and being averse to treating the difficulty as a gordian knot by the erection of another genus, I am compelled to leave the subject as I found it.

8. *SOLARIUM FRAGILE.* *Sol. testâ orbiculato-discoideâ; anfractibus quadriseriatim tuberculato-cingulatis; cingulo supremo et ultimo fusco pictis, medianis margaritaceis; ad peripheriam angulatâ, crenulatâ; basi tumido; umbilico patulo, crenis parvis albis acutis cincto; areâ umbilicali lævi; aperturâ triangulâri. Alt. 1, diam. 3 lin.*

Hab. North coast of New Guinea; in seven fathoms, sand.
Cab. Belcher.

9. *SOLARIUM FULVUM.* *Sol. testâ orbiculato-discoideâ, solidâ, fulvâ; spirâ retusâ, anfractibus multiseriatim granuloso-cingulatis, medianis minoribus; ad peripheriam obtusâ, carinis duabus, tertîâ minore intermedîâ; basi rotundâ, seriatim granulâtâ; umbilico mediocri, crenis concoloribus cincto; areâ umbilicali leviter unicastâ; aperturâ subquadrâtâ. Alt. $1\frac{1}{2}$, diam. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin.*

Hab. New Guinea. *Cab.* Belcher and Hinds.

10. *SOLARIUM VIRGATUM.* *Sol. testâ orbiculato-discoideâ, spirâ retusâ; anfractibus quadriseriatim granulatis, cingulo supremo et ultimo rufis, medianis albis; ad peripheriam obtusis, duabus carinis crenulatis; basi rotundâ, seriatim granulâtâ; umbilico mediocri,*

crenis albis cincto, extùs cingulo rufo tuberculato; aperturá angulatá. Alt. 1, diam. 2 lin.

Hab. New Guinea. Cab. Belcher.

11. *SOLARIUM FENESTRATUM.* *Sol. testá orbiculato-discoidé, spirá retusá; anfractibus multiseriatim granulatis, longitrorsum striatis; suturá canaliculatá; ad peripheriam rotundatá, carinis tribus subæqualibus; basi rotundatá, seriatim granulátá; umbilico subpatulo, crenis parvis numerosis cincto; areá umbilicali carinis duabus parvis; aperturá rotundatá.* Alt. $1\frac{2}{3}$, diam. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin.

Hab. New Guinea. Cab. Belcher.

As the only specimen obtained was without the animal, deprived of colour, and had evidently been some time lying in the mud, the cancellation is perhaps considerably more distinct than in the recent state. It is one of those which approach very closely to the unarmed species of *Delphinula*.

12. *SOLARIUM CÆLATUM.* *Sol. testá parvâ, valdè discoïdè, nitidâ, fuscâ; spirâ nullâ; anfractibus propè suturam uniseriatim tuberculatis, mediò eleganter radiatim plico-striatis; ad peripheriam carinis duabus obtusis tuberculatis; ad basin rotundatâ; aperturâ subrotundâ; umbilico valdè patulo, crenis parvis numerosis armato.* Diam. 2, umbilic. 1 lin.

Hab. Straits of Macassar; in ten fathoms, among coarse sand. Cab. Belcher.

13. *SOLARIUM TROCHLEARE.* *Sol. testá orbiculato-conoidè, depressiusculâ; anfractibus subtumidis, spirâ longitudinaliter plicatis, ultimo levigato, supernè sulco unico divisâ, areâ suprêmâ atro-fusco fasciatâ, infrâ maculis quadratis atro-fuscis cinctâ; ad peripheriam carinatâ, maculis albis et atro-fuscis articulatè ornatâ; ad basin paulisper tumidâ; umbilico magno, patulo; crenis subacutis fuscis.* Diam. 29, umbilic. 8 lin.

Hab. Indian Seas. Cab. Cuming and Hinds.

In general appearance it very closely resembles *S. perspectivum*, with which it has no doubt been long associated. In comparing the adult shells of both species, this will be found somewhat smaller, thinner, and more depressed; the whorls are somewhat more tumid, those of the spire obliquely longitudinally folded, but the last and penultimate are smooth, or very nearly so; above they are divided by a single groove, between which and the suture is a continuous dark band, beneath a series of square approximating spots, which towards the spire usually become continuous; the base is also somewhat tumid; the umbilicus is large, expanded, and perspective, and surrounded by chestnut-brown angular crenations; and the aperture is rhomboidal. It is no doubt an Indian species, but the locality is not known.

14. *SOLARIUM PURPURATUM.* *Sol. testá conico-orbiculatâ; anfractibus subtumidis, spirâ longitudinaliter obliquè plicatis, supernè sulcis duabus cinctis, maculis rufo-fuscis subgeminis ornatis, areâ*

mediand pallidè cinered ; ad peripheriam carinatâ articulatè maculatâ ; ad basin strigis rufo-fuscis radiatim dispositis ; umbilico subpatulo, crenis parvis albidis. Diam. 15, umbilic. 4 lin.

Hab. — ? Cab. Hinds.

The base is distinctively ornamented with reddish-brown rays, and the square spots on the whorls are somewhat twin in their distribution, since they occupy corresponding situations in the two upper narrow areas.

CORBULA, Bruguières.

1. CORBULA CRISPA. *Corb. testâ ovatâ, solidâ, albidâ, anticè rotundatâ, posticè truncatâ, ab umbonibus obtusè carinatâ ; valvis rotundatis, dextrâ eburneâ sulcatâ, sinistrâ ferè lævigatâ ; umbonibus politis, eburneis. Long. $4\frac{3}{8}$; lat. $2\frac{1}{2}$; alt. 3 lin.*

Hab. Island of Burias, Philippines. Cab. Cuming.

2. CORBULA ADUSTA. *Corb. testâ subobliquè trigonâ, lævigatâ, fuscâ, subtumidâ, anticè rotundatâ, posticè subacuminatâ, ab umbonibus angulatâ ; valvarum marginibus ventralibus acutis, productis ; umbonibus erosis. Long. 6 ; lat. $2\frac{2}{3}$; alt. 5 lin.*

Hab. New Zealand. Cab. Cuming.

3. CORBULA PROCERA. *Corb. testâ ovatâ, lævigatâ, fuscâ, anticè rotundatâ, posticè elongatâ, subnasutâ ; valvarum marginibus ventralibus acutis, productis ; umbonibus erosis. Long. 7 ; lat. 3 ; alt. 5 lin.*

Hab. — ? Cab. Cuming.

These two species closely resemble each other, and both are probably estuary shells.

4. CORBULA CARNOSA. *Corb. testâ ovatâ, solidâ, subæquilaterali, pallidâ, carnoso-roseo radiatâ ; valvis ambabus sulcatis, marginibus ventralibus inclausis ; anticè rotundatâ, posticè subnasutè breviter attenuatâ ; umbonibus lævigatis, ad angulos albidis. Long. $4\frac{1}{2}$; lat. 2 ; alt. 3 lin.*

Hab. — ? Cab. Cuming.

“ Continuation of Mr. G. B. Sowerby's description of *Scalaria*.”

SCALARIA AURITA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 33. f. 62. *Scal. testâ elongatâ, lævi, umblicatâ ; anfractibus rotundatis, contiguïs ; varicibus lævibus, decumbentibus, subnumerosis, propè suturam subarcuatis, nonnullis crassis, pluribus tenuibus ; aperturâ magnâ, auriformi ; colore inter varices fulvo, fasciis tribus fuscis.*

In general form resembling *Sc. lineatu* of Say, but wanting the keel on the lower whorl, and having a large open umbilicus. In Mr. Cuming's collection ; from the coast of Coromandel.

SCALARIA IMMACULATA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 33. f. 58. *Scal. testâ pyramidalî, acuminatâ, transversè minutissimè striatâ ; anfractibus numerosis, rotundatis, suturâ distinctâ ; varicibus simplicibus, plerumque tenuissimis, nonnullis crassiusculis ; aperturâ ovali, pos-*

ticè acuminatâ, labio interno anticè subincrassato; umbilico medioeri; colore albo.

Very much like *Sc. vestalis* of Hinds, lately described in the 'Zoological Proceedings,' but more elongated, with a larger umbilicus and with the varices near the suture simple, whereas in *Sc. vestalis* they are acuminated.

Collected by Mr. Cuming in sandy mud at eight or ten fathoms, at Catanauan, province of Tayabas, isle of Luzon.

SCALARIA CATANAUENSIS, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 93 & 94.

Scal. testâ pyramidalî, acuminatâ, minutissimè striatâ; anfractibus rotundatis, rapidè crescentibus, varicibus plerumque obsoletis, nonnullis rariùs crassis; aperturâ ovali, subauriformi; umbilico parvo; colore validè griseo, in medio anfractuum fasciâ fuscâ, latâ, obscurâ.

It is much shorter than *Sc. Martinii*, with the thickened costæ still more rare; the aperture is less oval and less auriform. There is a broad band of pale brown in the centre of the whorls.

Brought from Catanauan, isle of Luzon, Philippines, by Mr. Cuming, and found in sandy mud at a depth of eight or ten fathoms.

SCALARIA SIMILIS, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 90. *Scal. testâ*

subovali, spiraliter minutissimè striatâ; anfractibus paucis, varicibus tenuissimis, plerumque numerosis, nonnullis crassiusculis; aperturâ ovali, posticè subangulatâ, labio interno vix incrassato et expanso; umbilico parvo; colore pallidissimè fulvo.

The whorls are much less prominent, the minute varices more numerous, and the umbilicus considerably smaller than in *Sc. Catanauensis*.

Collected by Mr. Cuming in Puerto Galero, isle of Mindoro, in sandy mud at four or five fathoms.

SCALARIA BULLATA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 87. *Scal. testâ*

ventricosissimâ, brevî, lævi, anfractibus paucis, rapidè crescentibus, varicibus subnumerosis, irregularibus, decumbentibus, plerumque tenuissimis, nonnullis crassioribus, ad suturam paululùm elevatis et reflexis; aperturâ magnâ; umbilico parvo; colore albo.

We have only one specimen of this extremely ventricose shell, in a very imperfect state, from the island of Capul, Philippines, taken on the coral reefs by Mr. Cuming.

SCALARIA FRIABILIS, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 33. f. 74. *Scal. testâ*

pyramidalî, acuminatâ, tenuî, imperforatâ; varicibus tenuissimis, valdè numerosis, laminatis, extantibus, propè suturam acutè angulatis; aperturâ magnâ, labio interno subincrassato; colore albo.

A thin pyramidal species, with extremely numerous thin laminar varices, which project in an acute angle close to the suture.

In Mr. Cuming's collection; brought from Swan River by Lieut. Collie, R.N.

SCALARIA INDISTINCTA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 35. f. 141. *Scal. testâ*

elongatâ, imperforatâ, minutè spiraliter striatâ; anfractibus

numerosis, gradatim crescentibus, suturâ distinctâ; varicibus numerosis, inæqualibus, rotundatis, decumbentibus, simplicibus; aperturâ parvâ, labio interno anticè subincrassato; colore albo.

In Mr. Cuming's collection; brought from St. Blas, Gulf of California, by the Hon. Mr. Harris.

SCALARIA SUBTILIS, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 35. f. 137. *Scal. testâ elongatâ, angustatâ, spiraliter minutè striatâ; anfractibus numerosis, gradatim crescentibus, propè suturam elevatis; varicibus numerosissimis, laminatis, crenulatis, supernè angulatis; aperturâ parvâ; colore inter varices obscurè fusco.*

A small elongated turreted shell, to the beauty of which neither the description nor the figure can do justice: the varices are numerous, laminated, and regularly crenulated.

Collected by Mr. Cuming at the isle of Camiguin, in coarse sand at thirty fathoms; and at the isle of Corregidor, in sandy mud at thirty fathoms.

SCALARIA CONCINNA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 33. p. 63. *Scal. testâ subovali, lævi, imperforatâ, obtusâ; anfractibus subprominentibus; varicibus numerosis, regularibus, obliquè in spiram continuis, subrotundatis; aperturâ ovali, labio interno tenui; colore pallidissimè fulvo.*

The whorls in this species are more prominent, the ribs more numerous, and the inner edge of the aperture thinner than in *Sc. multicosata*.

Found by Mr. Cuming in sandy mud at sixty fathoms, at Loay, isle of Bohol, Philippines.

SCALARIA MULTICOSTATA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 96. *Scal. testâ subovali, lævi, imperforatâ, obtusâ; varicibus subnumerosis, regularibus, obliquè in spiram continuis, subrotundatis; aperturâ ovali; labio interno anticè expanso et incrassato; colore pallidissimè fulvo.*

Rather oval and obtuse, with numerous regular, prominent, rounded varices; the anterior part of the inner lip is thickened and spread over the columella.

Brought by Mr. Cuming from Corregidor, Philippines.

SCALARIA CONNEXA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 98. *Scal. testâ ovali, subelongatâ, lævi, imperforatâ; suturâ profundâ; varicibus numerosis, laminatis, prominentibus, in spiram obliquè continuis; aperturâ ovali; colore inter varices obscurè fulvo.*

The numerous varices of this small species are laminar, prominent, and continued from whorl to whorl on the spire, as in the *Sc. Clathrus* of Linnaeus, from which it differs essentially in not having the spiral rib at the lower part of the last whorl.

Brought from Sual, province of Pangasinan, isle of Luzon, by Mr. Cuming; found in sandy mud at seven fathoms.

SCALARIA PULCHERRIMA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 92. *Scal. testâ pyramidalî, subventricosâ, spiraliter minutè striatâ, imper-*

foratâ; anfractibus rotundatis, suturâ profundâ; varicibus subnumerosis, laminatis, extantibus, prominentibus, supernè in angulum acutum productis; aperturâ ovali, posticè acutangulatâ, anticè subquadratâ, labio interno subexpanso; colore inter varices fusco-purpurascente.

Pyramidal, acute, rather ventricose, spirally striated, with a deep suture and with rather broad laminar varices, which are expanded into an acute angle near the suture.

Found by Mr. Cuming in black sand at a depth of four fathoms, at Dumaguete, isle of Negros.

SCALARIA OVALIS, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 104. *Scal. testâ subovali, lævi; anfractibus paucis, ultimâ magnâ; varicibus novem, crassis, rotundatis; aperturâ ovali, margine incrassato, labio interno incrassato, expanso; colore inter varices pallidè cæruleo.*

The whorls of this very small shell are few in number, the last disproportionately large, with about nine very thick rounded varices; the aperture is oval, with a very thick edge, and the inner lip expanded.

Collected by Mr. Cuming in sandy mud at twenty to thirty fathoms, at Cagayan, province of Misamis, island of Mindinao.

SCALARIA HEXAGONA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 33. f. 67. *Scal. testâ brevi, lævi, imperforatâ; anfractibus contiguis, varicibus sex, crassis, prominentibus, ad apicem obliquè continuis; aperturâ rotundatâ; colore albo.*

A short, imperforate, white species, with whorls closely united and strong varices, forming about six oblique continuous lines along the spire.

In the cabinet of Mr. Cuming: brought by Col. Moffat from Aca-pulco; found in the sands.

SCALARIA ELENENSIS, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 102. *Scal. testâ pyramidalî, lævi, imperforatâ; anfractibus contiguis; varicibus sex; ad suturam subplicatis, irregulariter continuis; aperturâ ovali; colore albo.*

Resembling *Sc. unifasciata*, but without any band, and having the varices straighter and not so regularly continuous.

Collected by Mr. Cuming at Punta St. Elena, West Columbia; in sandy mud at six fathoms.

SCALARIA OBTUSA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 33. f. 54. *Scal. testâ ventricosâ, pyramidalî, imperforatâ, lævi; anfractibus contiguis; varicibus numerosis, crassis, rotundatis, continuis, supernè subangulatis; aperturâ rotundatâ, anticè submarginatâ; labio interno spiraliter recurvo; colore albo.*

Rather short and thick, white, with numerous varices, which continue on the spire from whorl to whorl, and are slightly angular above; the inner lip of the aperture is spirally twisted, and forms an undulated notch at its juncture with the outer lip.

Collected by Mr. Cuming at Punta St. Elena, West Columbia; in sandy mud at six fathoms.

SCALARIA MINDOROENSIS, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 91. *Scal. testâ pyramidali, lævi, imperforatâ, tenui; anfractibus vix separatis; varicibus numerosis, simplicibus, ad suturam subirregulariter junctis; colore albo.*

A small, white, thin shell, slightly resembling *Sc. obliqua*, but less oblique, and with more numerous and prominent varices; the whorls are contingent.

Found by Mr. Cuming on the sands at Puerto Galero, island of Mindoro.

SCALARIA POLITA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 34. f. 99. *Scal. testâ tenui, elongatâ, lævi, imperforatâ; anfractibus numerosis, vix prominentibus; varicibus subnumerosis, tenuibus, in medio anfractuum obsoletis; colore pallidè griseo.*

The whorls are numerous and not very prominent; the varices appear as if worn away in the middle of the whorls.

Collected by Mr. Cuming at Xipixapi, West Columbia; in sandy mud at ten fathoms.

SCALARIA STATUMINATA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 35. f. 127. *Scal. testâ parvâ, crassâ, brevi, lævigatâ, imperforatâ; anfractibus contiguis, vix prominentibus, anticè lined elevatâ cinctis; varicibus quinque, prominentibus, ad apicem continuis; anticè crassis, posticè in angulum elevatum expansis; aperturâ subrotundâ, labio externo anticè tenui; colore inter varices cæruleo.*

A small, short, thick species, with very prominent ribs, which are elevated and expanded into a broad angle at the upper part of the whorls and very thick at the lower; they are united with each other so as to form five oblique prominent ridges up the spire.

Collected by Mr. Cuming at Payti, Peru; in black sand at seven fathoms.

SCALARIA BICARINATA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 35. f. 113, 114. *Scal. testâ subcylindricâ, elongatâ, imperforatâ, minutè cancellatâ; anfractibus sex, latis, ad laterâ planis, ad suturam crenulatis, ultimo carinis binis in medio cincto; aperturâ ovali, margine crasso, minutè crenulato; colore ferè albo.*

A very curious little shell, with crenulated suture and two prominent keels in the centre of the last whorl; the edge of the aperture is much thickened.

Found by Mr. Cuming in coarse black sand at seven fathoms, at Dumaguete, isle of Negros.

SCALARIA FUSCA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 35. f. 138. *Scal. testâ elongatâ, imperforatâ, spiraliter minutissimè striatâ; anfractibus 12, subprominentibus, ultimo carinâ lineari anticè cinctâ; varicibus tenuissimis, obliquis, ad suturam flexuosis; aperturâ subovali, margine tenui; colore obscure fulvo, flammulis fuscis obliquis inter varices seriatim picto.*

An elongated species, with a very narrow but distinct keel on the lower part of the last whorl: the varices are very thin, and bent in near the suture. The shell is finely striated and prettily marked

with flame-like patches of dark colour between the varices. There are two specimens in Mr. Cuming's collection, which were found on sand at Sierra Leone.

SCALARIA ACUMINATA, Thes. Conch. part 4. pl. 35. f. 130. *Scal. testâ elongatâ, imperforatâ, acuminatâ; anfractibus 15, vix prominentibus, anticè carinâ tenui cinctis; varicibus creberrimis, numerosis, tenuibus, curvilineatis; aperturâ ovali, margine tenui, labio interno tortuoso; colore pallide fulvo, fasciis duabus, und prope suturam pallidâ, und in medio anfractuum latâ, distinctâ.*

Elongated, keeled, with numerous whorls, and very numerous close-set curvilinear varices.

Found by Mr. Cuming in sandy mud at seven fathoms at Malacca.

Mr. Gould laid before the Meeting specimens of three new species of Mammalia, which he described as

HALMATURUS HOUTMANNII. *Hal. Mas facie canescenti-cinereâ, fronte rufescente, spatio inter aures auribusque externè nigrescenti-cinereis; lined nuchali nigrescenti-fuscâ; dorso saturatè fusco griseo irrorato, colli corporisque lateribus, artubus anticis et posticis rufis, gutture et pectore fulvescenti-albis, abdomine cinereo; caudâ canescente, supernè et ad apicem nigrescente.*

Fœmina mari assimilis, coloribus pallidioribus. Juniores nigrescenti-cinerei, colore apud dorsum saturatiore.

Adult Male.—Face dark grizzled grey, stained with rufous on the forehead; external surface of the ear and the space between the ears dark blackish grey; sides of the neck, shoulders, fore-arms, flanks and hind-legs rufous, which colour is palest on the flanks; a line of obscure blackish brown passes down the back of the neck, and spreads into the dark grizzled brown of the back; throat and chest buffy white; under surface of body grey; tail grizzled grey, deepening into black on the upper side and the extremity; the fur is somewhat short, coarse and adpressed; the base bluish grey, succeeded by rufous, then white, and the extreme tip black. Weight $12\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Adult Female.—Is similar in colour to the male, but of a more uniform tint, in consequence of the rufous colouring of the shoulders and flanks being paler, and the grizzled appearance of the back not so bright. Weight 8 lbs.

The young is dark grizzled grey, approaching to black, particularly along the back. Weight 5 lbs.

	Adult Male.		Female.	
	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
Length from the nose to the tip of the tail ..	3	6	3	4
— of tail	1	$2\frac{1}{4}$	1	2
— of tarsus and toes, including the nail ..	0	$5\frac{3}{4}$	0	$5\frac{3}{8}$
— of arm and hand, including the nails ..	0	6	0	4
— of face from the tip of the nose to the base of the ear	0	$4\frac{1}{4}$	0	4
— of ear				
— of ear	0	$2\frac{1}{4}$	0	$2\frac{1}{8}$

HALMATURUS DAMA. *Hal. vellere fusco, canescente, rubescente ad nucham, ad dorsum imum, et per artus anticos; facie cinerea rufo lavatâ; fronte spatio inter aures, auribusque externè nigrescenti-cinereis; artibus posticis pallidè fuscis; caudâ canescente, corpore inferiore pallidè cinereo.*

General colour of the fur grizzled brown, becoming of a reddish tint on the back of the neck, arms and rump; face grey, washed with rufous on the forehead; outside of the ears and the space between blackish grey; hinder legs light brown; tail grizzled grey; under surface of the body pale grey.

	Ft.	In.
Length from the nose to the extremity of the tail	2	11
— of tail	1	2½
— of tarsus and toes, including the nail	0	5¾
— of arm and hand, including the nails	0	4¼
— of face from the tip of the nose to base of ear	0	4
— of ear	0	2½

This animal is closely allied to and is nearly the same size as *H. Thetidis*, but has much larger ears, and the fur much more dense and lengthened; the base of the fur is bluish grey, to which succeeds reddish brown, then silvery white, the extreme tips being black.

The above is the description of a female; the male will doubtless prove to be of larger size.

It is very numerous on the islands of the Houtmann's Abrolhos, and also inhabits Western Australia, where it is called 'Dama' by the aborigines.

LAGORCHESTES HIRSUTUS. *Lag. arenaceo-fulvus, dorso griseo irrorato; spatio circumoculari conspicuè rubescenti-fulvo; auribus mediocribus, externè cinereo-fuscis, intûs pilis albidis obsitis, pedibus flavescenti-fulvis.*

General colour of the fur, particularly on the hind quarters and under surface, rich sandy buff; that of the head and back having a grizzled appearance, occasioned by each hair having a mark of greyish white near the tip; the fur, which is exceedingly soft, is blackish brown at the base, then rufous, the whole beset with numerous hairs, which gradually increase in length towards the lower part of the body, where they exceed the general length of the fur by nearly two inches, and being of a rich rufous tint, give the animal a very conspicuous appearance; broad space round the eye reddish buff; ears moderately large, greyish brown externally, and clothed with whitish hairs within; feet nearly uniform yellowish buff.

	Ft.	In.
Length from tip of nose to tip of tail	2	3½
— of tail	0	10½
— of tarsus and toes, including nail	0	5¼
— of arm and hand, including nails	0	2¾
— of face from tip of nose to base of ear	0	3¾
— of ear	0	1¾

The above is the description of a male, from the York district of Western Australia, where it is called by the aborigines 'Woo-rup.'

It is a very beautiful and well-marked species, distinguished from every other member of its genus by the long reddish hairs of the rump. The extreme tip of the tail is white, but whether this character is constant or not is at present unknown.

At the request of the Chairman, Mr. Gould read the following extracts from a letter he had received from Mr. Gilbert, describing the habits, &c. of some Mammalia and Aves of Western Australia:—

“With respect to the Kangaroos, I have heard of the little silver-haired *Lagorchestes* (*Lagorchestes albipilis*), and have tried hard to procure a specimen; it is a species well known to the natives of Moore’s river, by whom it is called ‘Nar-nine,’ and is only to be found in densely thick scrub on flats, and on the edges of swamps where the small brush *Melaleuca* grows so thickly that it is almost impossible for a man to force his way through; its runs being under this, the animal escapes even the quick eye of a native. The only possible means of obtaining it is by having a number of natives to clear the spot, and two or three with guns and dogs to watch for it.

“This beautiful little animal makes no nest, but squats precisely like a hare, as I have been assured by Mr. Johnson Drummond. Of the other species with white behind the ears I can learn very little: are you satisfied it is not a variety? I have seen many with white spots about different parts of the head, which is said by all the hunters to be a common occurrence; the only character which appears to me to approach a specific difference is the redness of colouring, which has been often observed by hunters; the woolly nature of the fur is only the winter covering common to all of them.

“The grey kangaroo, *Macropus Ocydromus*, Gould, of which I have a very interesting series, has very thin hair in summer, while in winter the coat is thick and woolly.

“The male is called *Yoon-gur* and the female *Work* by the aborigines. This large kangaroo is tolerably abundant over the whole colony of Western Australia, from King George’s Sound, south, to forty miles north of Moore’s river, the farthest point I have reached; it does not appear to confine itself to any peculiar description of country, being as often seen in the gum-forests, among hills, as on the open plains and clear grassy hillocks; it is however more numerous in the open parts of the country, where it is not so liable to surprise. In travelling from Guilford to York, from two to four or five may occasionally be met with; but farther in the interior, particularly at Gwangum plains, herds of thirty to fifty may often be met with: further south, beyond Kojenup, they are still more numerous; in fact, I have never seen in any part of Australia so large a herd as the one I met with on the Gordon plains in 1840; at the most moderate calculation there could not have been less than five hundred kangaroos; several of the party, in their astonishment, considered there were even a greater number than I have stated.

“The large full-grown male is termed a Buck or Boomer, and attains a great size, when he becomes a most formidable opponent to the best dogs in the country, few of which will ever run a large

Boomer; this may in some degree account for the few instances of very large ones being killed. It is not by their greater speed that they are enabled to escape; on the contrary, their great weight in some measure incapacitates them for running fast, or to any great distance, so that almost any dog may overtake them; instead, therefore, of running away, the Boomer invariably turns round and faces his pursuers, erecting himself to his full height, if possible with his back against a tree, and thus awaits the rush of the dogs, endeavouring to strike them with his powerful hind-toe, or catching them in his fore-arms, and while thus holding them, inflicting dreadful and often fatal wounds with his foot. Old dogs well broken in, and accustomed to hunting the Boomer, will keep him at bay by their barking till the hunter comes up, who is generally furnished with a short heavy stick, and with a blow or two on the head brings the animal down. Even the hunter often runs a hazard, for a Boomer will frequently, on the approach of man, leave the dogs and attack his new opponent most fiercely; and at times it is no easy matter to avoid being severely cut in attempting to kill it. When closely pursued it takes to the water, and as the dogs approach, catches them in its arms and holds them under him till drowned. If the water be too shallow for drowning them, it has been known to catch one dog and place it beneath its feet, while courageously waiting the approach of a second. The swiftest runner is the female of the first year before having young, and of the second year with her first young; at this age her speed is so great that she is termed the 'Flying Doe': if she obtains anything like a fair start, she will give the fleetest dogs a long and severe run, and will frequently succeed in outstripping them; upon finding herself too closely pressed she attempts to evade the dogs by making a sudden leap, almost at a right angle with her course, and the dogs, not unfrequently when very close to her, and at full speed, bound past her to such a distance, that by the time they regain the track the kangaroo has gained so much ground as to get fairly away; but this stratagem often accelerates her death, for in turning off so suddenly the whole weight is thrown upon one limb; the leg is consequently broken, the animal falls, and the next moment becomes an easy prey. Even large bucks are sometimes taken in this way: in their flight and anxiety to escape the dogs, they often run against a stump or a tree with such violence as to be killed on the spot.

"It would scarcely be supposed, from seeing this animal in confinement, where it appears so quiet and harmless, that it can be excited to rage and ferocity; yet such is the case in a state of nature. Upon finding itself without a chance of escape, it summons up all its energies for a last struggle, and would often come off victor if it had dogs alone to contend with: the moment it sees the approach of man, it appears to know instinctively that he is its most formidable opponent; its lips are then curved and contracted; its eyes sparkle with rage, and seem ready to start from their sockets; its ears are in rapid and constant motion, and it utters its peculiar though not loud voice—a sort of smothered grunt, half hiss or hard

breathing; its attention is totally withdrawn from the dogs to its new enemy; regardless of their rush, it loses its former advantage; and the dogs having once fairly got hold, the animal is easily brought down.

"If a female with a tolerably large young one in the pouch be pursued, she will often, by a sudden jerk, throw the little creature out: whether this is done for her own protection, or for the purpose of misleading the dogs, has been debated by hunters; I am inclined to think the former is the case, for I have observed that the dogs pass on without noticing the young one, which in general crouches in a tuft of grass, or hides itself among the scrub without attempting to run or make its escape: the mother, if she eludes her pursuers, doubtless returns for her offspring.

"The kangaroos inhabiting the forests are invariably much darker and have a thicker coat than those of the plains; the young are at first of a very light fawn-colour, and get darker until two years old; from this age they again become lighter in colour, and the old males become of a very light grey; the coat, as already mentioned, being in the summer thin and hairy, and in the winter of a more woolly character. It is no unusual occurrence to find them with white marks on the head, particularly a white spot between the eyes or on the forehead; in one instance I observed the whole of the throat, cheeks, and upper part of the head spotted with yellowish white. Albinoes have been frequently met with. The largest and heaviest kangaroo of this species, of which I have any authentic account, was killed at the Murray, and weighed 160 lbs.*"

"*Halmaturus manicatus*:—Brush and Blue Kangaroo of colonists; *Quorra-a*, aborigines of Perth; *Quorra*, aborigines of the interior.

"This is by far the swiftest and most difficult kangaroo to procure with dogs, not only from its fleetness, but also from the zigzag manner of its successive leaps and the thick brush which it inhabits; it is very rarely seen in the open country, dwelling in scrubby districts, and the facility with which it bounds off and rounds the clumps of bushes, enables it to make its escape with comparative ease: during the heat of the day it may be seen under the shade of a tree or thick clump of bushes, and may be often approached within a few yards before it bounds from its cover, thus affording a tolerably easy shot. Weight from 17 to 21 lbs."

"*Anous stolidus*.—The Noddy and its allied species are the most numerous of all the inhabitants of the Houtmann's Abrolhos, breeding in prodigious numbers; the bird lays in November and December, forming a nest of sea-weed about six inches in diameter, and varying in height from four to eight inches, but without anything like regularity of form; the top is nearly flat, there being but a very slight hollow to prevent the egg rolling off; for, like others of the *Sternidæ*, they never lay but a single egg. The nests are so completely plastered with their excrement, that at first sight it appears to be almost the only material; they are either placed on the ground, in a clear open

* The head, feet and fore-arms were exhibited.

space, or on the tops of the thick scrub, over the *Sterna fuliginosa* : these two species incubate together in the utmost harmony, the bushes to an immense extent wearing a mottled appearance, from the great mass of birds of both species perched on the top ; the male *Sterna fuliginosa* sitting quite close to the nest of the Noddy, while its mate is beneath, performing her arduous duties of incubation. On walking among these birds' nests, I was surprised to observe the extreme tenacity with which they kept their post ; in fact they would not remove off the egg or young, but suffered themselves to be fairly trod upon, or taken off by the hand ; and so thickly were these nests placed, that it was no easy matter to avoid crushing either birds or eggs at every step. In the middle of January I found the eggs very nearly ready to hatch, and but few young birds ; in numerous instances the bird would suffer me to take it by the wing and throw it off the nest, but would immediately return, although I was still standing close to the spot. There would be an overwhelming increase of this species yearly but for one check which nature has provided against it in the presence of a lizard, which is extremely abundant about their breeding-places, and which finds an easy prey in this and *S. fuliginosa*. I am satisfied, from constant observation, that on an average, not more than one out of every twenty birds hatched ever reach maturity, or live long enough to take wing ; besides this, great numbers of the old birds are constantly killed : these lizards do not eat the whole bird, but merely extract the brains and vertebral marrow ; the remainder however is soon cleared off by the *Dermestes lardarius*, which is here in amazing numbers, and gave me a great deal of uneasiness and constant trouble to preserve my collection from their repeated attacks. I did not observe the Noddy inhabiting any other but South Island ; they do not appear to go far out to sea to feed, finding an abundance of food immediately outside the outer reef ; nor did I in any one instance observe it feeding in the smooth quiet water between the outer reef and the islands. Their food consists of small fish, small mollusca, medusæ, cuttle-fish, &c. Irides brown, bill and legs blackish grey ; flight somewhat heavy and very irregular."

"*Anous* — ? (Lesser Noddy).—This, although an allied species to the Noddy, is totally different in its habits of incubation, and is even much more numerous than the former ; it builds a nest of seaweed on the branches of the mangrove, from four to ten feet above the ground ; like the Noddy, however, it is truly gregarious, arranging their nests as closely as possible ; the sea-weed is merely thrown across the branch without any regard to form, till they have a heap varying from two to four inches in height, the long pieces of seaweed in many instances hanging beneath the branch, which makes it appear a much larger structure : their nests and the branches of the trees are completely white from their excrement, throwing out a most disagreeable and sickly odour, which is perceptible at a considerable distance. Although there are large groves of mangroves on other islands, this bird only inhabits those of South Island. I have seen many vast flocks of birds, but I must con-

fess I was not at all prepared for the surprise I experienced in witnessing the amazing clouds (literally speaking) which these birds present when congregating in the evening; while they had their young to feed, their departure and return with food during the day in one direction had a most singular appearance. From their breeding-place, across the smooth water to seaward, beyond the outer reef, is a distance of about four miles, and this entire distance, in their one and regular track, wore the appearance of one continuous dark line, from their prodigious numbers: after the young were enabled to accompany the parent birds, I observed they all left the breeding or roosting-place in the morning and did not again return till evening, apparently the first comers waiting the arrival of the last before finally roosting for the night; it is when thus assembling that the amazing number is seen to perfection: even Audubon, who has been so accustomed to see such vast flocks of the passenger pigeon, could hardly avoid expressing surprise if he had an opportunity of seeing these birds at sunset, moving in one immense mass over and around their roosting-place; while the noise of the old birds' quack and the piping whistle of the young ones is almost deafening. This bird, like its congener, lays but a single egg; it commences incubating in December, and appears to be the exclusive inhabitant of the mangroves; and while sitting on its egg or tending its young is as easily caught as the Noddy, suffering itself to be taken off its nest rather than leave it. As an article of food it was the favourite, several hundreds being killed almost daily during our stay on the island. From the circumstance of this bird inhabiting the upper branches may be attributed its numbers being greater than any other of the numerous birds which inhabit the islands, the lizards being unable to climb the branches with the facility necessary for capturing their prey, and it thus escapes their repeated attacks, to which the others must at all times be subject on the ground."

Mr. L. Fraser laid upon the table three new species of Birds, which he described as

LAGOPUS FERRUGINEUS. Lag. dorso, humeris, et uropygio, nitide ferrugineis; singulis plumis in medio fusco notatis; capite et collo fuscis; plumarum radicibus albis; primariis cinereis; caudæ supernè cineræ, ferrugineo marginatæ et ad apicem albæ; femoribus tarsisque ferrugineis nigro atque albo, viz distinctè fasciatis; rostro et unguibus nigris, ceromate et digitis flavis.

Upper surface dark brown, mottled slightly with white on the head and neck; tail above the basal half white, terminal brown, totally white beneath, the feathers on the breast having brown quills and those on the sides and thighs spotted with brown.

Total length $23\frac{1}{2}$ in.; wings, 17; tail, 10; gape, $1\frac{7}{8}$; tarsi, 3.

Hab. Mexico.

Mus. Zool. Soc. Lond.

There are three specimens of this bird in different stages of plumage in the Society's collection, all from Mexico; one was presented by John Taylor, Esq., another by N. A. Vigors, Esq.

PSITTACUS TIMNEH. *Ps. saturatè cinereus, uropygio, abdomine imo, crisso, et femoribus pallidè cinereis, caudà saturatè ferrugineo-rubrà, rectricibus singulis acutis.*

Hab. Timneh country, Sierra Leone.

Le Perroquet cendre noir; Le Vaillant, *Hist. Nat. des Perroquets*, pl. 102.

Mus. Zool. Soc. Lond.

This bird is confined to that part of Western Africa near Sierra Leone; it is never seen so low down as Cape Coast, which is the locality of the *Psittacus erithacus*, from which it differs in its much darker tints of colouring, and the tail-feathers terminating in a point.

PLYCTOLOPHUS CITRINO-CRISTATUS. *Pl. albus, cristà citrind, plumis auricularibus sulphureo leviter tinctis.*

In vivario, Zool. Soc. Lond.

About the size of *Pl. sulphureus*.

A letter from George Roberts, Esq., of Lyme Regis, was communicated by Mr. Yarrell. It announced the appearance of large shoals of Sprats off Lyme Regis, from the 14th to the 20th of December last. So numerous were these shoals, that at the distance of only fifty yards from the shore, at high water, the fishermen dipped the sprats out with their shrimp-nets; and so great was the quantity taken, that the price at one time was as low as 3*d.* per bushel. The oldest fishermen do not remember any such occurrence at Lyme. After a short cessation shoals again made their appearance about the 23rd of January, the fish being even more numerous than before, giving full employment to about seventy-five fishermen.

Many of the sprats were observed to be infested with the long slender parasite figured by Mr. Sowerby in his 'British Miscellany,' plate 68. It is also described by Pennant in the fourth volume of his 'British Zoology,' page 113, edition 1812, under the name of *Lerneæ sprattæ*. It is the *Lerneonema monillaris* of M. Milne Edwards, 'Hist. Nat. des Crustacés,' tome iii. p. 525, planche 41, fig. 5, and is generally found adhering by its arrow-shaped head to the soft parts about the eye of the fish, or along the line of the abdomen. A specimen and a drawing of the fish and its parasite were exhibited in illustration.