

filtered fluid was boiled with solution of potash, when traces of manganese were precipitated. Solution of sulphuretted hydrogen then rendered the presence of zinc in the filtrate quite evident.

"Another portion of the fluid filtered from the iron precipitate was precipitated at once by sulphuret of ammonium, the dried precipitate calcined in a platinum crucible, moistened with nitric acid, again calcined, and then treated with dilute acetic acid; the zinc was precipitated from the solution in acetic acid by solution of sulphuretted hydrogen.

"From another portion of the herb, freed from external impurities, the juice was expressed, and the presence of zinc in this was also distinctly proved by the above process."

This metal must therefore be added to the eighteen elements hitherto known to occur in the vegetable organism.—Poggendorff's *Annalen*, vol. xcii. p. 175.

### *Notes on the Bovine Animals of the Malay Peninsula.*

By GEORGE WINDSOR EARL.

1. The Sapi, or Wild Ox of the Malay Peninsula, was scarcely known to exist until 1850, when Dr. Oxley, and a hunting-party from Singapore, killed a young cow on the banks of the Muah River. He described it as 6 feet 2 inches high at the shoulder, from hoof to dorsal vertebræ; back curved, highest about the centre. Horns small, curved inwards, white, tipped with black. Forehead flat, with tuft of long hair, large in the bulls. Hair smooth and silky. Colour brown, with white about the feet. Mane 2 inches long, running along the entire back. No dewlap. The bulls are from 7 to 7½ feet high. The flesh is described as delicious. Calves could be obtained with a little trouble, but I suspect it would be difficult to get a full-grown animal; but he would be worth something if caught.

2. The Saladang, another species of wild cattle, is even less known than the Sapi, as no specimen has yet been shot by Europeans. It seems to me to be a sort of Bison, or *Bos Gaurus*. The males are 10 feet high at the shoulder, and they are altogether fiercer and more formidable than the Sapi, but not so graceful. In my opinion it would be worth while for the Zoological Society to send a man out expressly for the purpose of bringing home specimens of these two beasts. The Muah River, where both varieties abound, would be the best spot to seek them; and Inchi Basow, a Malay chief who takes great delight in hunting, would soon procure live specimens of each at a small expense.

3. The Water Buffalo does not seem to be known in England, although it is common all over the Archipelago. The larger specimens stand 7 feet at the shoulder, sometimes more. Barrel very large. Legs short and strong. Skin black and wrinkled, and almost hairless, like that of the Elephant. It is amphibious, and has been known to swim across straits as wide as the Channel at Dover; in fact, the way the head is set on the body, with the nose up, and the





Earl, George Windson. 1854. "Notes on the bovine animals of the Malay Peninsula." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 14, 318–319. <https://doi.org/10.1080/037454809494341>.

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