cies of this Cyperaceous genus is characterized by the sharp edges of its leaves, which inflict wounds on the unwary traveller who happens to pass the plant hastily.

WERNERIAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The 32nd Session of this Society commenced last week, when the following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for 1839 :

President.

Robert Jameson, Esq., F.R.SS.L. and E., Professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh.

Vice-Presidents.

Dr. Charles Anderson, M.R.C.S.		Dr. R. K. Greville, F.R.S.E.
William Copland, Esq., F.R.S.E.		John Sligo, Esq., F.R.S.E.

Secretary,—Dr. Pat. Neill, F.R.S.E.

Assistant-Secretary,—T. J. Torrie, Esq., F.R.S.E.

Treasurer,—A. G. Ellis, Esq.

Librarian,—James Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.E.

Painter,—P. Syme, Esq.

Assistant,—W. H. Townsend, Esq.

Council.

Dr. Walter Adam, F.R.C.P.		W. A. Cadell, Esq., F.R.SS.L. & E.
Dr. William Macdonald, F.R.S.E.		Dr. Robert Hamilton, F.R.S.E.
Dr. Martin Barry, F.R.S.E.		Dr. Robert Graham, F.R.S.E.
Rob. James Hay Cunningham, Esq.		Sir William Newbigging, F.R.S.E.

The seventh volume of the Society's Memoirs has just been published by Messrs. Black, containing the Essays by Mr. R. J. H. Cunningham and Dr. Parnell, for which honorary premiums were lately awarded ; the former on the geology of the Lothians, illustrated by thirty-five coloured sections and a geological map, and the latter on the Ichthyology of the Forth District, illustrated by sixty-seven engraved figures.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

April 10, 1838.—Rev. John Barlow in the Chair.

The first communication laid before the meeting was a description by Mr. Owen of the organs of deglutition in the Giraffe, being a supplementary note to his former memoir on the anatomy of that animal*.

Mr. Owen observes that since the Giraffes have been at the Gardens, they have not been known to utter vocal sounds, except once, at the time of coition, when the male uttered a cry like that of the Deer ; and the incapacity of the species in this respect would seem to be indicated by the structure of the *glottis*, the *rima* of which

* [The abstract of the former memoir will be found at p. 227.—EDIT.]

1839. "Wernerian Natural History Society." *Annals of natural history* 2, 376–376.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00222933909512409>.

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