the upper : the upper grinders, on their inner surface, have each an elevated ridge of enamel ; on the outer crest or edge of the tooth, there are three sharp points instead of two obtuse elevations, as in the Squirrels generally, and in this particular it approaches the *Spermophiles*. In the lower jaw, the grinders, which are quadrangular in shape, present each four sharp points.

“On the back and tail there are so many white hairs interspersed, the white spot on the head being merely occasioned by a greater number of hairs nearly or wholly white, that there is great reason to believe that this species becomes much lighter, if not wholly white, during winter.

“In the shape of the head and ears, and in the pointed projections of the teeth, this species approaches the Marmots and *Spermophiles* ; but in the shape of its body, its soft fur, its curved and acute nails, constructed more for climbing than digging in the earth, and in the third toe being longer than the second, it must be placed among the Squirrels.”

Mr. Ogilby pointed out the characters of a new species of Muntjac Deer, which lately died at the Gardens. This species is about the same size as the common Indian Muntjac, but has a longer head and tail ; has less red, and more blue in the general shade of the colouring, and is readily distinguished by the want of the white over the hoofs, which is so apparent in its congener. The specimen, a male, was brought from China by J. R. Reeves, Esq., to whom the Society is already indebted for many rare and valuable animals, and to whom Mr. Ogilby proposed to dedicate the present species by applying the name of *Cervus Reevesi*. A female specimen which accompanied that here described, is still living and has lately produced a fawn, which is interesting from exhibiting the spotted character common to the generality of the young in this extensive group.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FORMATION OF INDIGO IN *POLYGONUM TINCTORIUM*.

Prof. Morren of Liège in a memoir read before the Academy of Sciences at Brussels, on the culture of, and method of obtaining the indigo from *Polygonum tinctorium*, makes the following statement with respect to the formation of the indigo in the leaves of this plant :—
“The indigo,” he observes, “is contained in the mesophylle of the leaf especially. It is dissolved originally in a liquid which fills the cells, and in which float pure granules of chlorophylle either inclo-

sing nuclei of cells or bundles of crystals. The formation of the indigo is in connexion with the non-development of the fecula, so that the more there is of this substance the less there is of the blue product. Whence it follows that the young leaves being less feculiferous than the old ones, are more useful.

“The chlorophylle is a formation prior to the fecula, which is developed in separate nuclei in the green granules; but there is nothing to prove that the indigo is influenced by the chlorophylle, or that it is the anthocyan, the blue principle of the chlorophylle, which has any connexion with the indigo, so that the leaves of a bright and uniform green are also those which are best adapted for the extraction of indigo; for the greener and more healthy a leaf is, the more it contains of the blue principle.”—*Extract from the Bulletin de l'Académie de Bruxelles*, 1838.

ON A NEW SPECIES OF *CYRENA*. BY H. NYST.

The species of this genus formed by Lamarck at the expense of *Cyclas* of Bruguière, and belonging like those to his *Conchifères dimyaires lamellipèdes*, are all inhabitants of rivers. They are at present all exotic, but formerly they must have been widely spread through Europe, since they are found in a fossil state with *Melania*, *Melanopsides*, and *Paludina*, in layers of considerable extent: such is, amongst others, the *Cyrena semistriata*, Desh., which we have discovered in abundance at Kleyn Spauwen, near Maestricht, and which is figured in our “Inquiries on the Fossil Shells of Housselt and of Kleyn Spauwen,” Pl. III. fig. 13.

The genus *Cyrena* has been subdivided by Lamarck into two sections, the one containing the species with lateral serrulated teeth, of which Megerle afterwards made his genus *Corbicula*; the other comprehending those with entire teeth, which constitute the genus *Pridonta*, established by Schumacher. The shell under consideration belongs to the first of these sections. It should take its place by the side of the *Cyrena cor*, Lamk., if indeed it be not its fossil representative.

Cyrena Duchastelii, Nob.—Testa cordata, subæquilatera, tumida; scalariter sulcata; natibus fere conjunctis.

Shell cordiform, nearly equilateral, thick, probably grooved, traces of grooves visible towards the hinges in the injured specimen which we have before us. The hinges are very near each other.

We dedicate this species to M. F. Duchastel, who was so obliging

as to present us with the second specimen, which he possessed from the Crag of the County of Norfolk, where Mr. Wood, an English geologist had found it.—*Bulletin de l'Académie de Bruxelles*, 1838.

ON A NEW EXOTIC SPECIES OF *POLYPORUS*. BY PROF. J. KICKX.

Polyporus myrrhinus, Nob.—Graveolens, suberoso-coriaceus, pileo rufescente, strigoso-velutino, zonato, basi subtus tuberculoso; poris rotundis lutescentibus.

Hab. Cuba.

Sessile, unilateral, obliquely and irregularly reniform, plane, thin (its greatest thickness not surpassing 7 mill.), nearly 11 centim. long to 17 centim. broad. Pileus marked with zones of various colours; some brownish-red with short hairs, very dense and soft, giving the surface a velvety appearance; others alternating with the first, narrower, greyish, with stiff erect hairs. Lines of growth deep. Base inferiorly tuberculous. Margin thin, straight, presenting now and then small perforations arising from foreign bodies inclosed by the plant during its growth. Hymenium yellow, of a deeper tint towards the outer margin. Pores very small, approximate, rounded, entire, decurrent along the basal tuberosities of the pileus. Sporidia white.

The *Polyporus myrrhinus* belongs therefore to the group of annual and coriaceous Apodes, and should take its place by the side of *P. hirsutus*, Schrad., *Lundii*, Fr., and *Polyzonus*, Pers. The odour which this species diffuses is that of myrrh. It is impossible to mistake it. Besides, there is a method which I have had recourse to more than once for the diagnosis of vegetable emanations, and with which I have almost always succeeded. It consists in passing the object over a bottle containing ammonia for some minutes. The experiment proves that by this process (the theory of which however I do not take upon myself to give), we strengthen without altering the aromas, the weakness of which would otherwise have hindered their being recognised.

A character so easy to prove as the existence of the resinoso-balsamic odour, which we have mentioned, seemed to merit being expressed in the specific name.—*Ib.*

ON THE VERNATION OF THE *CYCADACEÆ*. BY F. A. W. MIQUEL.

In all botanical works, we find quoted, as one of the characters of the *Cycadaceæ*, the circinate arrangement of the young leaves, and from this at one period was inferred their affinity to Ferns. The au-

thor's researches have shown that this fact is not general. On a specimen of *Encephalartos affinis*, Lehm., he found a bud composed of young leaves shortened, the points of which converged at their summit, and the leaflets on each side of the rachis were imbricate (on account of the shortening of the latter), and they were applied one against the other by their front surface. The same phenomenon is seen in the *E. Altensteinii* and *horridus*, Lehm. The terminal bud in the species of this genus is not in general developed except at intervals of two or even of several years : in the young plants and the lateral buds of great stems very often only a single leaf or a very small number of leaves is developed at a time. The growth of the young leaves is caused by the extension of the rachis and of the leaflets. The *E. spiralis*, Lehm., likewise presents the same characters.

In the *Zamia*, Lehm. the leaves present a development altogether different. In the *Z. pumila*, *media*, the young rachis in the bud is bent in the form of the head of a crosier, but the two series of leaflets are imbricated on each side and applied one against the other, so that their summit is directed downwards by the gyrate arrangement of the rachis.

Another disposition of the young leaves is noticed on *Cycas circinalis* and *revoluta*, Thunb. Their rachis as well as the leaflets are bent like the head of a crosier, each one having its own axis of involution as in the Ferns.

These different characters in the disposition of the leaves appear to merit consideration with respect to their use in defining the genera ; and M. Miquel, notwithstanding the small number of species which he has been able to observe, is induced to attribute some importance to these differences which have hitherto escaped most botanists.—*Extract from the Bulletin des Scienc. Phys. de Néerlande*, t. i. p. 129.

ON THE SYSTEMATIC ARRANGEMENT OF THE CHRYSIDIDÆ.

M. Klug has given a systematic arrangement of the family of insects called *Chrysididæ*. He first separates the genus *Cleptes*, which is sufficiently distinguished from *Chrysis* by the abdomen, arched below and above, terminating in a point and consisting of more than four segments, whilst in the latter the abdomen is flat beneath, blunt at the point, often broad, consisting only of three, or at the most of four segments : hence *Cleptes* might be separated as a sub-family, *Cleptidæ*, and might then be considered as following *Chrysis*, and

thus the *Oxyuri* would be connected with *Cleptes*, as *Chrysis* is with the *Chalcidites*, and form a commodious transition to the *Formicariæ*.

Among the *Chrysididæ* M. Klug first distinguished those which are characterized by the difference of the number of abdominal segments in the two sexes. The disappearance of the submarginal and discoidal cells in the fore wing here indicates an approach to the second chief division of the *Chrysididæ*, yet it appears more suitable to place them not at the end but at the head of the first division, and thus entirely at the head of the *Chrysididæ*. Only one genus belonging to that section *Parnopes*, which is distinguished by the porrect linear mouth, is yet known. To this a new genus is now added, *Anthracias*, a female, with two abdominal segments and with a short mouth more like that of *Chrysis*. The *Chrysididæ* with an equal number of abdominal segments in both sexes are divided from the form of the body into oblong and round, the first with distinct lower marginal and discoidal cells in the fore wing and simple claws, the last with obsolete cells and cleft claws. In the divisions themselves the generic characters should be taken from the formation of the mouth alone, according to whether it, or especially the ligula as in *Parnopes*, be linear and porrect or not, and at the apex emarginate or rounded, or lastly short and almost conical. In the first division with simple claws, next to *Parnopes*, or rather *Anthracias*, a new genus *Leptoglossa* should follow, not dissimilar to *Euchroeus*, with a porrect ligula and emarginate at the apex; then *Pyrochloris*, also with a porrect ligula and rounded at the apex; after which *Euchroeus*, subdivided according to whether the apex of the abdomen (as is usually the case here) is serrated, or indented, or quite unarmed; and then the genus *Stilbum*, which hardly differs sufficiently from *Euchroeus*. The conclusion of the first division would be formed by the genus *Chrysis*, which is the most abundant in species, and which might be much subdivided from the structure of the mandibles, completeness of the marginal cells in the superior wings, and the direction of the nerves forming them, projection of the scutellum, and the armature of the apex of the abdomen, but is nevertheless well characterized by the short nearly conical ligula. In the section of *Chrysididæ* with divided claws, the difference between the genera *Elampus* and *Hedychrum* consists either, as in *Chrysis*, in the short or conical ligula, or as in *Euchroeus* and *Stilbum*, only in the more projecting ligula emarginate at the apex and without regard to the projection of the scutellum.—From the Bericht der Berliner Akademie, &c., for 1839.

British Coleoptera Delineated, consisting of Figures of all the Genera of British Beetles. Drawn in outline by W. SPRY, M.E.S. Edited by W. E. SHUCKARD, Librarian to the Royal Society.

We have just seen the first two numbers of this work, which promises to be of considerable assistance to the British Entomologist; it is to consist of a series of figures in outline of all the genera of British Coleoptera, drawn by Mr. Spry and edited by Mr. Shuckard. As the distinctions of form are sometimes so peculiar that it is scarcely possible for the most elaborate description to convey a correct idea of them, we consider this work a very happy conception; and as we have no doubt that the execution will continue in the spirit and with the care with which it commences, we certainly think that it deserves the patronage of all who cultivate the delightful science of entomology, for its very moderate price must meet the means of all.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR APRIL, 1839.

Chiswick.—April 1. Rain. 2. Overcast. 3, 4. Bleak and cold. 5. Snowing. 6. Cloudy and cold. 7. Fine. 8. Snowing. 9. Bleak and cold. 10, 11. Fine but cold. 12—14. Cloudy and cold. 15. Overcast. 16. Very fine. 17. Showery. 18. Boisterous with rain. 19. Very fine. 20. Showery. 21. Fine. 22. Very fine. 23. Rain. 24—26. Fine. 27. Dry haze. 28—30. Very fine.

Boston.—April 1. Fine. 2. Stormy. 3—7. Cloudy. 8. Cloudy: sleet early A.M. 9. Cloudy. 10. Fine. 11—15. Cloudy. 16. Fine. 17, 18. Rain. 19. Fine: rain early A.M. 20, 21. Fine: rain A.M. and P.M. 22. Fine: rain early A.M. 23. Rain. 24—26. Cloudy. 27. Cloudy: rain A.M. 28—30. Fine.

Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire.—April 1. A most inclement day: snow on hills. 2. The same: snow on hills melting. 3. The same: bitterly cold. 4. Another piercing day: cloudy P.M. 5. Still extremely cold: snow showers. 6. Wind fallen: more temperate. 7. Moderate day: still no vegetation. 8. Piercingly cold and withering. 9. Dry and cold: frosty mornings. 10. Sun warm, but wind cold and withering. 11. Milder, but still no spring. 12. Great increase of temperature. 13. Sun warm: wind moderate but parching. 14. Moderate day: vegetation commencing. 15. The same: temperature lower: cloudy. 16. Threatening rain: showery: very wet P.M. 17. Showers: rain: hail: cleared P.M. 18. Frequent showers: rain and sleet: snow. 19. Violent wind: showers of hail. 20. Dry and cold: vegetation at a stand. 21. Dry: temperature rising. 22. Foggy morning: drizzling day. 23. Clear: temperature increasing. 24. The same: cool evening. 25. Temperature increasing: clear sun. 26. Cloudy: threatening: cleared up P.M. 27. Clear and fine: hoar frost morning. 28. The same: cloudy P.M. 29. Fine spring day. 30. Remarkably fine spring day.

Sun 25 days. Rain 4 days. Snow 2 days. Hail 2 days. Frost 3 mornings. Wind easterly 13 days. Southerly 12 days. Northerly 2 days. Westerly 3 days.

Calm 11 days. Moderate 7 days. Strong breeze 4 days. Stormy 5 days. Brisk 3 days.

Mean daily range of barometer 0.092. Mean nightly range 0.080. Mean range of 24 hours 0.172.

Mean daily range of thermometer 10.4.

Meteorological Observations made at the Apartments of the Royal Society by the Assistant Secretary, Mr. ROBERTSON; by Mr. THOMPSON at the Garden of the Horticultural Society at Chiswick, near London; by Mr. VALL at Boston, and by Mr. DUNBAR at Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire.

Days of Month. 1839. April.	Barometer.				Thermometer.				Wind.				Rain.				Dew point Land.: Roy. Soc. 9 a.m.		
	London: Roy. Soc. 9 a.m.	Chiswick.		Boston. 8½ a.m.	London: Roy. Soc.		Dumfries-shire. 9 a.m.	Dumfries-shire. 9 p.m.	Chiswick. 9 a.m.	Chiswick. 9 a.m.	Bost. 9 a.m.	Dumfries-shire. 9 a.m.	London: Roy. Soc. 9 a.m.	Chiswick. 9 a.m.	London: Roy. Soc. 9 a.m.	Chiswick. 9 a.m.		Boston. 9 a.m.	Dumfries-shire. 9 a.m.
		Max.	Min.		Fahr. 9 a.m.	Self-register. Max. Min.													
1.	29.586	29.672	29.601	29.27	29.66	29.83	41.7	46.3	40.7	45	38	40	E.	E.	.116	.07	...	...	38
2.	29.766	29.929	29.761	29.52	29.98	30.08	38.8	41.0	38.9	39	37	36	NE.	E.	.088	...	...	...	36
3.	29.896	29.974	29.910	29.64	29.99	30.03	35.9	36.6	35.6	36	31	35	NE.	NE.	...	...	...	...	33
4.	29.986	30.028	29.939	29.67	29.98	29.94	35.5	36.0	33.9	37	32	36	NNE.	NE.	...	...	...	...	30
5.	29.802	29.995	29.827	29.54	29.83	29.99	33.5	34.3	34.0	41	34	37.5	NE.	E.	.061	.56	...	...	31
6.	30.158	30.358	30.154	29.88	30.16	30.32	40.2	40.7	34.0	43	24	38	NNE.	NE.	.340	...	...	...	33
7.	30.398	30.417	30.413	30.04	30.40	30.37	38.6	39.3	30.5	49	31	38	NNE.	E.	...	...	...	...	29
8.	30.320	30.348	30.333	29.88	30.38	30.42	40.3	41.4	34.8	43	32	40	NNE.	E.	...	.01	...	...	32
9.	30.352	30.434	30.373	30.05	30.50	30.60	38.8	39.7	35.0	41	36	40	NNE.	E.	...	...	...	...	32
10.	30.444	30.550	30.455	30.10	30.65	30.65	42.4	43.2	37.3	52	29	43	NE.	E.	.027	...	...	...	33
11.	30.518	30.543	30.442	30.11	30.67	30.54	41.4	42.7	33.2	53	37	40.5	NNE.	NE.	...	...	...	...	33
12.	30.282	30.307	30.228	29.82	30.43	30.34	42.6	43.3	37.2	50	42	44	N.	NE.	...	...	...	...	37
13.	30.272	30.278	30.242	29.80	30.29	30.21	44.8	45.3	41.3	47	41	46	N.	N.	...	...	...	...	38
14.	30.232	30.247	30.215	29.75	30.23	30.20	45.7	46.4	43.7	55	42	45	W.	NW.	...	...	...	...	39
15.	30.138	30.140	29.975	29.58	30.05	29.84	48.5	49.3	45.2	53	40	44	SW.	SW.	...	...	...	...	39
16.	29.792	29.836	29.535	29.27	29.63	29.44	50.2	50.8	44.6	60	44	43	S.	S.	...	...	...	...	37
17.	29.436	29.457	29.409	28.83	29.24	29.27	48.4	49.4	45.5	55	39	46	W. var.	SW.	...	.01	...	...	0.50
18.	29.450	29.578	29.491	28.97	29.27	29.36	47.2	47.6	40.9	58	46	43.5	S.	SW.	...	.32	...	...	...
19.	29.662	29.965	29.646	29.05	29.50	29.74	51.4	52.0	40.7	59	33	48	W.	W.	.205	.20	.14	...	...
20.	30.082	30.235	30.069	29.52	29.95	29.95	49.8	50.7	40.8	55	37	47.5	WNW.	NW.	.180	...	.21	...	...
21.	30.260	30.273	30.260	29.67	30.18	30.22	48.7	49.5	41.3	55	32	48	W.	W.	...	.01	...	...	...
22.	30.268	30.270	30.168	29.76	30.20	30.07	52.3	53.5	42.7	61	46	50	S.	W.	...	.16	...	...	...
23.	29.984	30.004	29.958	29.40	29.92	30.03	51.3	51.8	47.4	55	39	52	S.	W.	.155	.12	.30	...	...
24.	30.078	30.111	30.075	29.57	30.06	30.12	45.8	46.4	42.3	55	28	45	NW.	N.	.172	...	...	...	...
25.	30.074	30.090	30.038	29.58	30.07	30.04	44.6	46.0	36.9	63	34	45	NW.	NE.	...	...	...	...	...
26.	30.148	30.219	30.139	29.65	30.08	30.15	44.3	50.4	39.2	54	38	43.5	NNE.	SE.	...	...	...	...	0.48
27.	30.238	30.262	30.234	29.70	30.20	30.24	48.7	49.3	43.6	61	38	52	SE.	SW.	...	...	...	...	...
28.	30.340	30.335	30.313	29.77	30.30	30.28	47.8	49.4	42.0	63	30	54	NNW.	E.	...	...	.07	...	...
29.	30.250	30.262	30.182	29.67	30.10	30.10	48.8	49.9	42.6	68	37	56.5	E.	E.	...	...	...	...	...
30.	30.148	30.145	30.039	29.62	30.05	30.02	57.3	58.7	46.7	73	41	56.5	E.	NW.	...	...	...	...	...
Mean.	30.078	30.142	30.047	29.62	30.108	30.088	44.8	46.0	39.7	52.63	36.26	45.1	43.5	36.7	Sum. 1.377	1.46	0.75	0.98	Mean. 37.9

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