

between the palettes of these animals and those found in the young specimen of *Furcella* which prevents one from saying that the animal is absolutely the animal of the *Furcella*.

The palettes of *Furcella* were slender, cylindrical, with a dilated tip like a double-headed hammer, like the young palette of *Teredo malleolum* of Turton, but of a much larger size; and they had a small, slightly-raised tubercle on the middle of the inner side of the dilated end.

The palette in the two specimens of *Teredo* which we have lately received is of precisely the same form, and nearly of the same size; but instead of having this small tubercle, the middle of the dilated end is produced into an elongated process about half an inch long, which is more slender and oblong at the base, thicker, flattened, and dilated above, and truncated at the top.

The valves of the shell are exactly like those of the *Teredo navalis*, *T. norvegicus*, and other normal species of the genus, but larger.

I am inclined to name this species *Teredo furcelloides*; for I do not think it would be safe to decide, without further evidence, that it is the animal of *Furcella*, Lamk.; but at the same time I consider it right to bring the occurrence of this animal at once before the Society, as it has led me to doubt if my conclusion was correct that *Furcella* is a genus of Conchiferous Mollusks without any valves, as I was inclined to believe before the animal occurred, and which the evidence then before me led me to believe was a correct conclusion.

The palettes are situated at the hinder end, just within the edge of the mantle, the siphons being quite distinct from or within their base. The siphons are slender, of nearly equal diameter, and united nearly to their tips; in their contracted state they just reach to the dilated part of the palette at the base of the terminal elongated process. There are some fragments of a thin lamina of shell attached to the hinder end of the mantle near the base of the palettes.

If this should prove to be the animal of *Furcella*, or even of a *Furcella*-like *Teredo*, it shows most conclusively that the cup at the end of the tubes cannot be regarded as the analogue of the true valves of the genus, as I have also proved in a former paper (see Proc. Zool. Soc. 1858, p. 258).

If these animals prove to belong to the genus *Furcella*, as I suspect they may, then that genus or group of species will only be separated from the other *Teredines* by the habit of living in sand, by the club-shaped form of the tube closed at the end with two arched plates, the division and separate prolongation of the tubes of the siphonal aperture, and the hammer-like form of the palettes.

Nov. 26, 1861.—Dr. J. E. Gray, V.P., in the Chair.

NOTES ON THE BREEDING AND REARING OF THE CHINESE
CRANE (*GRUS MONTIGNESIA*) IN THE SOCIETY'S GARDENS.
BY A. D. BARTLETT.

Near the middle of May a pair of these birds formed a rude nest of dry rushes on the ground; and soon afterwards two eggs were laid. The parent birds took turns upon these eggs during the time of in-

cubation. On the 24th of June a young Crane was hatched, the period of incubation having been thirty days.

The young bird was well covered with down of a light-brown or fawn colour, with darker markings on the back ; it was short on its legs, and the bill also appeared short ; in fact, it appeared less like a Crane than I expected to see it. It was able to walk about as soon as it was hatched, but appeared feeble, and now and then fell or rolled over in its attempts to follow its parents.

The old birds attended to the young one with much care, and furiously attacked everything that came near the place ; they collected worms and beetles, &c., from all parts of their enclosure, which they brought in their bills towards the young bird, and after mutilating all living food, they would hold it near the young bird, who would advance and pick it from their bills, or from the ground as soon as it was dropped by them. The young Crane never opens its mouth and cries for food like the Storks or Herons and many other young birds, but utters a rather loud note, like *peep, peep, peep*, not unlike the chick of a common fowl ; it is not, however, as adroit and able to obtain its food as the young of the Gallinaceous birds generally are ; and consequently the parent birds are far more attentive, and watch every opportunity of obtaining food and preparing it for the young one. I have frequently seen the old birds offer a piece of biscuit (that the young bird found was too large to swallow), and they then would place it upon the ground, and by repeated blows break it up in small pieces, and then drop these close to the young bird, who would pick them up and swallow them. From these observations I am induced to consider that the Cranes (*Grus*) occupy an intermediate position between those birds that feed their young like the Herons and Storks, and those groups, like the Bustards and Plovers, whose young are at once able to run about and seek their food.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing is the rapid growth of the young Crane, which is very surprising. As I have before stated, at first the legs are short ; in fact, as compared with the parents, the bird is remarkably small, and few persons would guess what it possibly could be ; in a few days, however, the legs begin to grow rapidly, and the neck and bill become elongated, and the bird quickly appears a Crane in shape.

From the time of hatching, the female alone broods upon or nestles the bird, although the male takes turn in the task of incubation ; and I notice the female does not squat down on the young one to brood, but sits down on the ground near it, and the young bird immediately walks behind her ; she then raises her long black plumes, between which he creeps, and passes forward under one of her wings, until quite out of sight ; her plumes are then lowered into their ordinary position.

There is a beautiful example of the progressive growth from the first down to the perfect feathers to be seen on the young of this bird. I have in many birds observed this, but not to so great an extent. It appears that the first down is not thrown off, but continues to grow longer, until the perfect feather is developed having the early down



Gray, John Edward. 1872. "On the animal of the Glass-rope." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 9, 324–325.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00222937208696590>.

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