

made is generally judicious. From the literary, the scientific, and the artistic point of view, 'Cassell's Natural History' must be characterized as a success.

*Die Ammoniten des schwäbischen Jura.* By F. A. QUENSTEDT. Erstes Heft. Pp. 48. 8vo, with 6 plates folio. Stuttgart, 1883.

ACCORDING to the author's own account, he has been incited to the publication of this work by the appearance of Dr. Wright's Monograph of Lias Ammonites in the volumes of the Palæontographical Society, and his desire to show that the Ammonite-zones hold good in his own corner of Germany as elsewhere. We have here, however, only the first instalment out of ten or twelve which are to appear, according to the advertisement, in about four or five years. As the present contains only part of the Ammonites of the Lower Lias, it seems very unlikely that even twelve parts could possibly represent on the same scale any thing like the known Ammonites of the whole Jura. If the whole work were finished as it is begun it would be a splendid Monograph; for the figures are magnificent. They are too crowded, as in all Quenstedt's plates; but individually they leave nothing to be desired. Systems of nomenclature may change; but a faithful figure is always of value: and this remark is specially applicable in the present case; for the names applied could not possibly be used. There are some who favour a trinomial nomenclature; but we see in this work what it gradually leads to—"Ammonites psilonotus lævis ovalis" is not the only multinomial designation employed. The modern nomenclature is treated in rather a cavalier manner. Speaking of the first species he says that Hyatt named it *Psiloceras*, and Waagen *Aegoceras*, but he would rather call it *Psilonotoceras*, as then it would be known we were speaking of a Pylonote Ammonite. Yet this name is not actually adopted. It is plain that Quenstedt does not believe in the ordinary specific nomenclature; so that those who do will obtain little assistance from him; but with such plates as these they can apply their own names and be thankful for the many valuable descriptive notes given in the text. It is too soon as yet to judge of the whole work; and when we remember that it is now just forty years since its author first appeared before a former generation of geologists, we cannot help expressing the hope that he may have health and strength to complete it. Its value will then be more easily appreciated, and a further notice will be given.

J. F. B.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Oxycorynia*, a new *Synascidian* Genus. By Dr. R. VON DRASCHE.

THE author describes a remarkable form of compound Ascidian received by the zoological cabinet at Vienna from the Museum Godeffroy, and obtained from Hogolen, one of the Rook Islands in



the Caroline archipelago. The animals are arranged in heads presenting a general resemblance to a fir-cone, and supported upon cylindrical stalks, which, in the specimen described, are about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long and rather more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick. The oval spikes, which are sometimes pointed at the apex, attain a length of about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch and a breadth of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. The colour of the badly preserved specimen is a dingy yellowish green. The branchial aperture is surrounded by a stellate marking; and on each side of the endostyle two or three parallel dark lines run down from the branchial aperture; dark pigment also appears round the cloacal aperture.

The individual animals are 10 millim. ( $\frac{2}{5}$  inch) long, of which about 6 millim. belong to the branchial sac. The latter is of an elongated form, narrowed before and behind; and its hinder part covers a good deal of the intestine. At the foremost part of the animal is the simple round cloacal orifice. The branchial aperture is placed in the anterior third of the branchial sac; it is comparatively large, and surrounded by a very delicate cylindrical membrane, often cleft into four parts. Examined from within, the branchial aperture is seen to be surrounded by a frill-like ring, which appears strongly coloured by pigment-granules. Outside this there are eight tentacles, alternately large and small. The short œsophagus leads into a small smooth stomach, the intestine proceeding from which forms a loop to the left of the œsophagus, and bends forwards, passing into the rectum, which is filled with faecal masses, and may be traced nearly to the cloacal aperture. Within the loop of the intestine are placed the ovaries and the racemose testes, which consist of about six follicles, each of which opens by a small duct into the common *vas deferens*, which is traceable along the rectum. Posteriorly each individual animal has a filiform appendage, which passes into the common peduncle, in which it may be traced to a long distance by transverse sections. This appendage is divided by a septum into two parts. The peduncle itself consists of a dense tunic-mass, in which the well-known large vesicular cells with parietal nuclei are present in great quantity. The individual animals are united by an extremely delicate colourless tunic. The individuals seated upon the margin of the peduncle are short-stalked; and their stalks gradually increase in length towards the middle, thus producing the spike-like form of the colony.

The caudate larvæ lie partly in the branchial cavity itself, partly in diverticula of the body-wall. The embryo is characterized by a peculiarly formed appendage which bears five adhesive glands. All the embryos observed showed indications of branchial hoops.

At the summit of the common peduncle, where the appendages of the individual animals enter it, there are numerous much-branched diverticula of these ectodermal processes. These bud-foundations form a conical elevation in the middle of the head; and the development of the buds seems to take place as described by Kowalevsky in *Didemnum styliferum* and *Amouroucium*.



The new genus approaches nearest to *Chondrostachys* of J. D. Macdonald (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 3, vol. i. p. 401, pl. xi.), from Bass's Straits. In the position of the two apertures, the four-lobed character of the ingestive aperture, and the structure of the intestine this agrees precisely with the new species from the Rouk Islands. In *Chondrostachys* also the ovaries and testes are placed in the loop of the intestine, and the tailed larvæ lie partly in the branchial space, and partly in diverticula of the walls; but in *Chondrostachys* the individual animals are *not* united by a tunic, but arranged separately on the common peduncle, and the tunic of the individuals is of considerable thickness. The new form is named *Oxycorynia fascicularis*.—*Verhandl. zool.-bot. Gesellsch. in Wien*, Bd. xxxii. (1882) pp. 175–177, pl. xi.

*On the Direct Reproduction of Tapeworms.* By M. P. MÉGNIN.

On making a post-mortem examination of a little pet dog which died at the age of four months under epileptiform attacks which had troubled it for a month, I found in its intestines three large tapeworms of the species *Tænia serrata*, Goeze, from 0.50 to 0.80 metre in length, which were at least two months old, and a dozen young tapeworms from 0.003 to 0.010 and 0.015 metre in length. It is certain that the large *Tæniæ* were contracted at the kennel where the young dog was bred, either by more or less direct contact with other dogs, or by food or drink containing germs of *Tæniæ*. As to the young tapeworms of a few millimetres length, which consequently had only been a few days in existence (a *Tænia* of eighteen days being several inches long according to Van Beneden's experiments), it is impossible to explain their presence otherwise than by a direct reproduction by means of ova furnished by the large tapeworms and hatched in the intestines; for during the last month of the life of the young subject, when I had it constantly under my eyes, I am absolutely certain that its nourishment was of perfect purity, and that it did not swallow either *Cysticercus* or *Cœnurus*, which are still regarded, erroneously, as the sole germs that can furnish tapeworms. This is therefore an example of direct reproduction of tapeworms without the intervention of any larval migration.

A proof that even in man the proglottides of tapeworms, detached from the strobila, may remain for a long time in the intestine, evacuate their ova there, and even acquire extraordinary dimensions, is furnished by some proglottides which I possess, and which were passed by a young man. These proglottides are 0.035 metre long and 0.005 metre wide, and no longer show more than a few ova scattered through their tissue. It is by the hatching of the ova thus deposited and the penetration of the embryos into the tissues that we can explain the development of the measly state in man and in the dog; and the examples of the persistence during several years of an infection of tapeworms furnished by the human subject are probably cases of the direct reproduction of *Tæniæ* in the intestine.—*Comptes Rendus*, May 7, 1883, p. 1378.





Drasche-Wartenberg, Richard. 1883. "Oxycorynia, a new synascidian genus." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 11, 455–457. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222938309459181>.

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