

December 27, 1831.

William Clift, Esq. in the Chair.

Mr. Vigors reported that the Resolution agreed to at the last Meeting of the Committee had been communicated to the Council: that the Council, fully concurring in the propriety of instituting the experiments suggested therein, had directed that they should be tried on two Leopards, two Ocelots, and two Hyænas: and that instructions had been accordingly given to the Head-keeper to carry them into effect.

A collection of animals preserved in spirit, and recently presented to the Society by Charles Barclay, Esq., was exhibited. It was collected by Charles Telfair, Esq., of the Mauritius, Corr. Memb. Z. S., and contained specimens of *Mammalia*, Fishes, Reptiles, and Insects. Among the former were individuals of two species of *Tenrec*, *Centenes*, Illig., which were pointed out as the *Cent. setosus* and *Cent. semispinosus*, and reference was made to the habits of the animals of this genus as described by Mr. Telfair in a communication read to the Committee on June 14 (p. 89). The apparently good state of preservation of the specimens authorized the hope that their anatomical structure might be properly investigated.

The remaining portion of the collection of *Fishes* formed at the Mauritius by Charles Telfair, Esq., Corr. Memb. Z. S., and presented by him to the Society, was exhibited. The species contained in it were brought in succession under the notice of the Committee by Mr. Bennett, who pointed out more particularly those which he believed to be new to science. As such he named and characterized the following:

SCOLOPSIDES PHÆOPS. *Scol. lobis pinnæ caudalis filamentosis: rostro superciliisque alepidotis, nigrescentibus, illo vittâ argenteâ infra oculum productâ infernè marginato; lineâ obliquâ pallidè argenteâ ab oculo ad præoperculi angulum decurrente; operculo toto squamato; vittâ dorsali utrinque argenteâ supra lineam lateralem; caudâ supernè maculâ nigrescenti notatâ.*

D. $\frac{1}{3}$. A. $\frac{3}{7}$ &c.

Scol. frænato, Cuv. & Val., videtur maximè affinis. Differt vittâ dorsali argenteâ et operculo toto squamato.

AMPHIPRION FUSCIVENTER. *Amph. niger, ventre parum pallidiori; fasciâ angustâ operculari, alterâ laterali mediâ, tertiâque obsoletâ caudali albis; pinnâ caudali posticè pinnarumque dorsalis analisque parte molli albo fimbriatis; pinnis ventralibus internè dimidiatim flavis.*

D. $\frac{1}{3}$. A. $\frac{1}{7}$ &c.

[No. XIV.] ZOOL. SOC. PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMM. OF SCIENCE.

Amph. chrysogastris, Cuv. & Val., simillimus. Differt ventre, pinnis pectoralibus, ventraliumque dimidio externo corpori concoloribus.

OBS. In *Amph. chrysogastre* radii spinosi pinnæ dorsalis variant 10 vel 11.

Fam. MUGILIDÆ.

Genus AGONOSTOMUS.

Rostrum subproductum.

Os inferum.

Dentes in utrâque maxillâ minimi, acuti, pluriseriati.

Maxilla inferior rotundata.

Genus *Mugili*, Linn., maximè affine. Formâ et pinnis simillimum. Differt tantummodo figurâ et situ oris, dentibusque pluriseriatis.

AGONOSTOMUS TELFAIRII. *Ag. suprâ nigrescens, infrâ fusco-argenteus.*

D. 4, $\frac{1}{8}$. A. $\frac{2}{9}$. P. 14.

ATHERINA AFFINIS. *Ath. pinnis pectoralibus caudalique apicem versus nigro irroratis.*

D. 5, 11. A. 15.

Affinis, ut videtur, *Ath. Neso-Gallicæ*, Cuv. Differt numero radiorum a figurâ Cepedianâ.

GOBIOUS COALITUS. *Gob. pinnis dorsalibus subcontinuis, 2dâ priore paullo altiore: brunneus, nigrescenti maculatus cæruleoque punctatus, punctis ventralibus caudalibusque longitudinaliter seriatis; pinnis cinereis, radiis nigrescenti punctatis.*

D. 6, 10. A. 8. P. 16.

Gob. Giuri, Ham., ut videtur, affinis.

ELEOTRIS MAURITIANUS. *El. niger; pinnâ caudali rotundatâ; dorsali 2dâ priore altiore.*

D. 6, 9. A. 9. P. 14.

An verè distinctus ab *El. nigricante*, Quoy et Gaim.? Membrana branchiostega maxima, infra operculum longè latèque producta, membranæ lateris oppositi marginem internum tegente.

LABRUS AXILLARIS. *Labr. rostro subproducto; pinnæ dorsalis (per partem spinosam) membranâ profundè excisâ; pinnâ caudali rotundatâ: anticè et ad dorsum brunneus, infrâ posticèque pallidè fuscus; maculâ rotundâ ad basin pinnarum pectoralium, secundâ irregulari ad initium pinnæ dorsalis, tertiâ ad apicem radiorum quatuor priorum mollium ejusdem pinnæ, quartâque ad apicem radiorum sex priorum mollium pinnæ analis atris; hâc (pinnâ) præterea pinnisque ventralibus nigrescenti guttatis; caudali pectoralibusque flavescentibus immaculatis, illâ nigrescenti supernè infernèque marginatâ: dentibus quatuor anterioribus in utrâque maxillâ majoribus, alteroque magno ad commissuram utrinque.*

D. $\frac{1}{2}$. A. $\frac{3}{12}$.

Formâ, incisurâ membranæ pinnæ dorsalis, numero radiorum, dentibusque *Labr. Dianam*, LaCép., refert: coloribus omnino differt.

LABRUS LEUCOSTICTICUS. *Labr. pinnâ caudali sublunatâ: auran-tiacus?; maculis dorsalibus parvis albis utrinque quatuor; axillâ punctisque numerosis subseriatis humeralibus nigris.*

D. $\frac{1}{2}$. A. $\frac{3}{12}$.

Præcedenti affinis; cui similis formâ (præter caudalis pinnæ), dentibus, numero radiorum, &c.

CHEILINUS PUNCTATUS. *Cheil. fuscus, anticè virescens; capite supernè rubro lituratim vario; genis pectoreque fulvo-guttatis; corpore miniaceo lineatim punctato; pinnis pectoralibus rotundatis flavidis, axillis miniaceis; dorsali fuscâ, purpureo sparsim punctatâ, ad marginem, posticèque latè, rubrâ, vittâ intra marginem punctisque plurimis cæruleis; ventralibus elongatis purpureis; anali saturatè miniacèd, intra marginem cæruleo vittatâ; caudali rotundatâ versus apicem rubrâ ibique ocellis minutioribus cæruleis numerosis ornatâ: dentibus viridibus, duobus intermediis maxillæ inferioris unoque laterali anticè utrinque maxillæ superioris maximis.*

D. $\frac{19}{9}$. A. $\frac{3}{8}$. P. 11. C. 11.

Affinis, ut videtur, *Cheil. lunulato*, Cuv., (*Labrus lunulatus*, Forsk.). Differt egregiè coloribus.

Var. Pinnis anali caudali parteque dorsalis molli posticè viridibus. Picturâ *Sparo chloruro*, Bl. haud absimilis; sed forma pinnæ caudalis maximè diversa.

CHEILINUS COMMERSONII. *Cheil. pinnâ caudali rotundatâ: fuscescenti-brunneus; pinnis anali caudali dorsalisque parte molli viridibus; capite pone et ante oculos vittato; operculo præoperculoque castaneo obliquè lineatis; dentibus duobus anterioribus in utrâque maxillâ maximis, maxillæ superioris exterioribus.*

D. $\frac{9}{10}$. A. $\frac{3}{8}$.

Maximè affinis videtur *Cheil. Digrammæ*, Cuv., (*Labrus Digramma*, LaCép.): Differt præcipuè numero radiorum.

JULIS SCAPULARIS. *Julis pinnâ caudali rotundatâ: capitis rivulis, corporis lunulis, tæniâ pectorali pone pinna obliquè ad ventrem ductâ, vittâque pinnæ analis roseis; pinnis dorsali caudalique roseis, hâc cæruleâ transversim rivulatâ, illâ lunulis baseos, vittâ mediâ, apiceque partis mollis cæruleis; pinnâ pectorali hyalinâ, ad basin flavâ; vittâ latâ humerali, ad apicem pinnæ pectoralis truncatâ, nigrâ.*

D. $\frac{9}{11}$. A. $\frac{3}{11}$.

JULIS BICATENATUS. *Julis pinnâ caudali quadratâ: capite dorsoque viridibus; lateribus rubris, tæniis utrinque duabus e serie macularum grisearum oblongarum transversalium constantibus ornatis; pinnis dorsali analique flavo ad apicem latè vittatis; caudalis apice flavo; pectorali nigrâ, maculâ magnâ basali marginem inferiorem attingente aurantiacâ; ventralibus flavidis.*

D. $\frac{8}{13}$. A. $\frac{2}{11}$.

CRENILABRUS ANTHIOIDES. *Cren. capite brevi, fronte subdeclivi; pinnâ caudali hirundinacèâ: capite nigro; corpore aurantiaco; caudâ flavâ, suprâ infrâque vittâ latâ nigrâ per caudalis pinnæ margines excurrente notatâ; pinnâ dorsali maculâ anticâ plagâque latâ posticâ partis spinosæ anticâque partis mollis nigris insignitâ.*

D. $\frac{12}{10}$. A. $\frac{3}{11}$.

CYPRINUS MAURITIANUS. *Cypr. ore haud barbato; pinnâ caudali lunatâ; anali breviorè; corpore subalto, subcompresso; squamis*

majoribus: suprâ plumbeus, infrâ argenteus; pinnis, præsertim versus apices, nigricantibus.

D. $\frac{9}{7}$. A. $\frac{2}{5}$. C. 19. P. 19. V. 9.

CLUPEA DELICATULA. Clup. elongata, lata; pinnâ dorsali in equilibrio positâ; ventralibus sub basin posticam dorsalis.

D. 11. A. 9.

Numero radiorum parvo a congeneribus differt. Corporis longitudo in specimine parvo (3-poll.) sextuplo altitudinem superat.

ENGRAULIS NESO-GALLICUS. Engr. elongatus, compressus, ventre serrato: suprâ plumbeus, infrâ et ad latera argenteus.

D. 14. A. 32. V. 7. P. 14.

BELONE PLATYURA. Bel. dorso subplano; caudâ depressâ, (altitudine latitudinis dimidio subæquali); pinnâ caudali bifurcâ; pinnis dorsali analique subelongatis, anticè falcatis, anali longiore: suprâ plumbeo-virescens, infrâ dimidiatim argenteo-flavicans.

D. 14. A. 18. P. 12.

Long. rictûs, 4 poll.; a rictu ad orbitam, 4 lin.; orbitæ, 8 lin.; operculi, 1 poll.; pinnæ pectoralis, 1 poll. 5 lin.; pinnæ dorsalis, 1 poll. 9 lin.; alt. ejusdem pinnæ, 1 poll.; long. pinnæ analis, 2 poll. 2 lin.; alt. ejusdem, 1 poll. 2 lin.; long. tot. 20 poll.

RHOMBUS PARVIMANUS. Rhomb. oculis sinistris parum distantibus, interstitio excavato: fusco nigrescentique marmoratim varius, guttisque pallidis parvis adpersus.

P. 10.

Formâ et picturâ Rhomb. mancum, Cuv., (*Pleuronectes mancus*, Brouss.) refert, sed os inerme oculique approximati.

CONGER FLAVIPINNATUS. Cong. dentibus maxillæ superioris anterioribus tantum, vomeris ossiumque palatinorum minimis in areis tribus latis asperis dispositis; pinnâ dorsali suprâ medium pectoralium incipiente; lined laterali conspicuâ, impressâ: pinnis omnibus flavis, anali posticè dorsalique nigro marginatis, hâc insuper ad basin fusciscente.

P. 15.

MURÆNA FIMBRIATA. Mur. dentibus maxillaribus acutis uni-seriatis, anterioribus longioribus; vomerinis anticis duobus elongatis acutis: castaneus; nigro subseriatim crebrè guttatus, pinnarum guttis aliquando in fascias confluentibus; pinnis flavo fimbriatis.

BALISTES AUROMARGINATUS. Bal. ovalis; squamis omnibus, præter capitis dorsique anterioris, tuberculo parvo subspinoso armatis; pinnâ caudali subquadrâtâ, supernè infernèque paullum productâ: nigrescens, pinnarum dorsalis 2dæ analisque anticè falcatarum marginibus, caudalisque marginibus apice guttâque subbasali, flavis.

D. 3, 28. A. 25. P. 13. C. 12.

Coloribus Bal. flavimarginato, Rupp., similis: differt armaturâ caudæ. Lateribus corporeque toto posticè spinoso-scabris convenit cum Bal. *Willughbeii*, Benn., (*Guaperua longa*, Will., Ichth., tab. I. 20); cui tamen formâ corporis pinnarumque valdè dissimilis.

BALISTES LIMA. Bal. ovalis, fuscus; squamis omnibus, præter capitis dorsique anterioris, in medio pallidioribus tuberculatisque; pinnâ caudali subquadrâtâ, in medio, supernè et infernè paullum

productâ; pinnarum dorsalis 2dæ analisque anticè magis elevata-rum fimbriâ, caudalisque marginis fasciâ lunatâ, nigrescentibus.
D. 1?, 29. A. 26. P. 13.

Præcedenti valdè affinis; sed pictura alia, pinnæ anticè minùs elevatae, numerusque radiorum paullo major.

BALISTES MITIS. *Bal. latè ovalis; pinna caudali rotundatâ, extre-mitatibus paullum productis; seriebus septem vel octo aculeorum caudalium minimorum: pallidè brunneus, pallidiori varius.*

D. 3, 30. A. 28. P. 15. C. 12.

Mr. Bennett availed himself of the opportunity to remark that the *Serranus*, characterized by him from this collection on the 23rd of August, as the *Serr. Telfairii* (p. 127), had been described about the same time by MM. Cuvier and Valenciennes under the name of *Serr. argyro-grammicus*. He also stated, that those eminent zoologists having used as the designation of a distinct genus of *Scombridæ* from that to which he had applied it (p. 146), the classical name *Apolectus*, he proposed, with the view of preventing confusion, to apply to the group indicated by him the name of *Apodontis*.

Mr. Bennett subsequently observed, that the *Birds* described by him (p. 13), had during the summer completed the change of their plumage, and had thereby assumed the full adult characters of the *Angola Vulture* of Pennant, *Vultur Angolensis*, Gmel. The *Polyborus? hypoleucus* sinks therefore into a synonym, and the description of it is that of the *Angola Vulture* in its change from immature to adult plumage.

Mr. Owen read the following additional Notes on the anatomy of *Crocodylus acutus*, Cuv., taken at the dissection of the female of that species, which lately died at the Society's Gardens.

"The same subdivision of the serous membranes, as was noticed in the dissection of the male (p. 139), was again observed; and in addition to those cavities previously described, another distinct one was found between the back part of the liver and *œsophagus*.

"The interior of the stomach did not present the distinct patches observable in the previous dissection (and still obvious in the preparation), which must therefore be considered as an accidental variety: but the lining membrane was a smooth uniform villous surface, stained of a yellow colour, and highly vascular, as is proved by injection of size and vermilion.

"The small intestines presented a dilatation immediately beyond the folds of the *duodenum*; which is most probably a normal structure, and not depending on the accumulation of *flatus*, as was supposed in the dissection of the male.

"The spleen was in the same relative situation, and exhibited the same loose mode of connection, but the process of *peritoneum* was somewhat broader. On holding it up to the light an equally satisfactory view of its contents was obtained; and I am therefore inclined to consider it an *experimentum crucis* on the negative side of the question regarding the duct of the spleen.



Bennett, George. 1832. "Observations on a collection of fishes from the Mauritius with characters of new genera and specieså." *Proceedings of the Committee of Science and Correspondence of the Zoological Society of London* 1832, 165–169.

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