

April 1, 1879.

Prof. W. H. Flower, LL.D., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March 1879:—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of March was 63, of which 28 were by presentation, 3 by birth, 22 by purchase, 7 were received on deposit, and 3 by exchange. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removal, was 98.

The most noticeable additions during the month of March were as follows:—

1. A young male of the Mule Deer of North America (*Cariacus macrotus*), obtained from Dr. J. D. Caton, of Ottawa, Illinois, U. S. A., and received March 12. Through the kind intercession of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Judge Caton has been induced to send us our first example of this peculiar Deer, of which we may hope shortly to receive hinds also, by the aid of kindly promised assistance from the same influential quarter.

2. A male Sumatran Rhinoceros, deposited March 20th.

This is the first male of the Sumatran Rhinoceros that we have yet received, the examples previously exhibited in the Society's Gardens having been all of the female sex. In general appearance this specimen presents all the characters of the *Rhinoceros sumatrensis* as distinguished from *R. lasiotis*.

The Secretary read the following extracts from a letter addressed to him by Mr. Carl Bock, dated Padang Panjang, Sumatra, Jan. 24, 1879.

"The *Capricornis sumatrensis*, or 'Mountain-Antelope' as you very properly call it, I have been on the look-out for ever since I left Padang: I was told by several there it has never reached Europe alive. It is sparingly distributed over the mountains here in the highlands proper; the best district is Lolo, where I spent more than one month, and had two men all the time in the most inaccessible parts purposely to catch some 'Kambing-utan,' as the Malays call the animal. I succeeded in getting a young male of perhaps 10 to 12 months. I have named him 'Lolo.' I give you an extract from what I have noted down about the animal.

"The 'Kambing-utan' or wild Goat, when I first saw the animal, struck me as not being like a Goat at all; his form and outline more resemble that of a young Reindeer. He is a young male of perhaps ten months to a year old; his colour is jet-black; he has long coarse hair, and a mane of stiff hair of a whitish grey colour; the length of the hairs ranging from 3 to 4 inches. His ears are thinly covered inside with white hairs, on the outer side of brown colour, mixed with black; the ears are remarkably long and erect; when he listens he bends them quite forward past the horns; the latter are

straight, and from the root to about the middle there is a deep furrow in each. In the old animals the horns (of which I have several pairs) are curved, and halfway up are furnished with a number of rings, which, again, are striated longitudinally; the apex is quite smooth. All the horns I purchased were more or less covered with earth and bark firmly rooted between the wrinkles. The eyes have rather the appearance of revenge than that gentle and mild expression so common among the Deer. An inch below the eyes, in a lateral line, are on each side a glandular opening or lacrymal passage, from which now and then (especially when the animal is irritated) an oily substance of a white colour is secreted, which hardens and becomes dark when exposed to the air. My specimen has slight traces of a beard coming. I am told by the Malays that the old males have a long beard. His scrotum is large and covered with white hair. He is a powerful animal, but appears by no means very active, and moves about very slowly. In their wild state they live upon buds and leaves. I am trying to domesticate my specimen; he does not now get many leaves from the forest, but 8 or 10 pisangs a day; these he is very fond of. Before commencing to eat he blows and scents at the food for a few minutes. I have noticed that he does not drink any water; but I always let my cook throw a quantity of water over the leaves. I hope to procure a female as companion for him; then I think they will live in bondage, especially as they have been caught young. I have several persons in different parts of the highlands looking out for the Mountain-Antelopes, and have offered good rewards for a female; unless I move to another island I will bring the Kambing-utan to England under my own care, as 'Lolo' knows me pretty well, for I feed him every day."

Mr. Sclater exhibited the eggs of birds collected by the naturalists of the 'Challenger' Expedition, which had been arranged in order in 18 glass-topped boxes.

The whole series consisted of about 250 eggs referable, so far as they could be determined, to about 50 species, as follows:—

List of Eggs collected during the 'Challenger' Expedition.

a. PASSERES.		No. of Eggs.
	Locality.	
1. <i>Phrygilus melanoderus</i> (<i>Q. et G.</i>)?	Falklands.	2
2. <i>Turdus falklandicus</i> , <i>Q. et G.</i> ?	"	2
3. <i>Anthus correndera</i> , <i>Vieill.</i>	"	3
b. ACCIPITRES.		
4. <i>Milvago australis</i> (<i>Gm.</i>)?	Falklands.	2
5. <i>Buteo erythronotus</i> (<i>King</i>)?	"	2
6. <i>Cathartes aura</i> (<i>Linn.</i>)	"	2