

two forms. The female skulls being more or less in all mammals, but especially in Ruminants, more *conservative* than the skulls of males, the resemblance of the Siwalik skull to a more generalized type, as represented by the *Helladotherium* skull of Pikerini, is not more than we might have anticipated.

June 2, 1891.

Prof. Flower, C.B., 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 May 1891:—

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of May 1891 were 163 in number. Of these, 96 were acquired by presentation, 41 by purchase, 4 by exchange, 10 were born in the Gardens, and 12 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 89.

Amongst the former special attention may be called to the following:—

1. A female Water-buck Antelope (*Cobus ellipsiprymnus*) from British East Africa, presented by George L. Mackenzie, Esq., F.Z.S. This is a very acceptable arrival, as making a pair with the male of the same Antelope presented by Mr. Mackenzie in November last (see P. Z. S. 1890, p. 589).

2. Three Blanford's Rats (*Mus blanfordi*) from the Shevaroy Hills, Madras, presented by Mr. W. L. Sclater, F.Z.S., Deputy Superintendent of the Indian Museum, Calcutta. This species is new to the Collection.

Mr. Sclater made some remarks on animals which he had noticed during a recent visit to the Zoological Gardens of Paris, Ghent, Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and The Hague.

In the Jardin d'Acclimatation at Paris the colony of breeding Penguins, which Mr. Sclater had also inspected in the summer of 1890, was of special interest to the ornithologist. Twenty-two examples of the Black-footed Penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*) were kept in an open wire enclosure. Many of these had paired and nested in some wooden dog-kennels which had been placed in the enclosure. Last year five birds had been bred, and only one of these had been lost.

Of the three Sea-Lions living in the Jardin d'Acclimatation, one adult male appeared to be referable to *Otaria stelleri* and not to *O. gillespii*, the species usually brought from the Pacific coast of America, from which it seemed to be distinguishable externally by the sudden elevation of the front part of the cranium. But this determination would require confirmation after the death of the specimen.

A remarkable hybrid Pheasant in this Garden was said to have

been produced by a male *Lophophorus impeyanus* and a female *Euplocamus albocristatus*.

The Menagerie in the Jardin des Plantes was fortunate in still having a male example of the Black African Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros bicornis*), received about ten years ago.

From the Antwerp Gardens Mr. Sclater had succeeded in obtaining a few interesting birds for the Society's collection. Amongst these were two small Hornbills (*Tococus erythrorhynchus*) and two African Spoonbills (*Platalea alba*), the latter being new to the Society's series.

In the Zoological Gardens of Rotterdam two interesting Antelopes had lately been received from the Congo: these were a female of *Tragelaphus gratus* and a male *Cephalophus dorsalis*. The colony of wild Herons adjoining the large covered aviary in which the Night-Herons bred (see P. Z. S. 1889, p. 219) was still flourishing and consisted this year of twenty-eight pairs.

The Gardens of the Royal Zoological Society of Amsterdam (since the death of the late Mr. Westerman under the direction of Dr. C. Kerbert) had been next visited and many objects of interest had been noted. Amongst these were a pair of the Elk (*Alces machlis*), born in the Gardens on the 13th of June, 1890, a pair of the Banteng Ox of the Sunda Island (*Bos banteng*), and a female example of the Sassabey Antelope (*Damalis lunata*). The herd of the graceful Antelope (*Tragelaphus gratus*) (see above p. 213) now consisted of a male, two females, and two young ones lately born.

In the small Zoological Garden at the Hague, Mr. Sclater had noticed an example of a beautiful species of Ground-Pigeon, *Phlegoenas tristigmata*, (see Ibis, 1865, pl. ix.), of Celebes, which he had never seen before alive.

A drawing, sent to England by Professor E. C. Stirling of the University of Adelaide, M.D. and a Corresponding Member of the Society, was exhibited. This, being the first received in Europe, represented the remarkable Australian mammal which that gentleman had now called *Notoryctes typhlops*, having described it without a name in 'Nature' (vol. xxxviii. p. 588) of the 18th of October, 1888, in the following terms:—

"The total length is 13 cm., inclusive of the tail, which is 2 cm. long. The head, relatively shorter than in *Chrysochloris*, has a rounded muzzle, the dorsal surface of which is covered by a horny shield. Nostrils transversely slit-like. No eyes visible, the skin passing uninterruptedly over the ocular region; but on reflecting the skin on one side of the face a small circular pigment-spot is visible in the position of the eye. No apparent bony orbit. Tongue fleshy, broad at the base, and tapering to a blunt point. No external ears, but the ear-openings distinct, 1 mm. wide, and covered over with fur.

"The fore limbs are short, resembling somewhat those of a Mole; but the manus is folded, so that the large nails of the fourth and fifth digits only are visible in the natural position of the limbs. Of these nails the fourth is 15 mm. long and of a uniform width of