

Amongst the additions I may invite special attention to the following:—

1. A rare Fruit-Bat (*Pteropus pselaphon*), from the Bonin Islands, obtained by Capt. Kemp in China, and presented September 2nd.

2. A Red-footed Squirrel (*Sciurus pyrrhopus*), from Mouravia, West Africa, presented by Ellis Edwards, Esq.

Both these species are new to the Society's List.

The registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of October were 217 in number. Of these 184 were acquired by presentation, 8 by purchase, 4 were born in the Gardens, 9 were received in exchange, and 12 on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 112.

Amongst these, special attention is called to the following:—

1. Three Franklin's Gulls (*Larus franklini*), purchased at Liverpool, October 9th, and stated to have been received from North America. These are the first specimens of this black-headed Gull (kindly determined for us by Mr. Howard Saunders) that have reached the Collection.

2. A very fine and large series of Reptiles from Burma, collected and presented to the Society by Mr. W. G. Bligh, and embracing specimens of 15 species new to the Collection.

The following is a complete list of the species, as kindly determined by Mr. Boulenger, those new to the Collection being marked with an asterisk:—

## TESTUDINATA.

- 11 Burmese Tortoises (*Testudo elongata*, Blyth).
- 7 Flat-backed Tortoises \* (*Testudo platynota*, Blyth).
- 3 Ceylonese Terrapins \* (*Nicoria trijuga edeniensis*, Theob.).
- 4 Shielded River-Turtles \* (*Emyda scutata*, Peters).

## SAURIA.

- 5 Cocteau's Geckos (*Hemidactylus coctæi*, Dum. & Bibr.).
- 12 Verticillated Geckos (*Gecko verticillatus*, Laur.).
- 6 Yellowish Monitors (*Varanus flavescens*, Güth.).
- 6 Doria's Lizards \* (*Mabuia doriae*, Boul.).
- 3 Bell's Lizards \* (*Liolepis belli*, Gray).
- 6 Emma's Lizards \* (*Calotes emma*, Gray).

## OPHIDIA.

- 1 Hamadryad (*Naia bungarus*, Schleg.).
- 1 India Cobra (*Naia tripudians*, Merr.).
- 1 Banded Bungarus \* (*Bungarus fasciatus*, Cantor).
- 1 Green Pit-Vipers \* (*Lachesis gramineus*, Shaw).
- 4 Grass-green Tree-Snakes (*Dryophis prasinus*, Boie).
- 2 Sharp-snouted Snakes (*Dryophis mycterizans*, Linn.).
- 2 Ornamented Tree-Snakes (*Chrysopelea ornata*, Shaw).

- 5 Robed Snakes \* (*Tropidonotus stotatus*, Boie).
- 2 Fishing-Snakes (*Tropidonotus piscator*, Schmeid.).
- 1 Rayed Snake \* (*Coluber radiatus*, Schleg.).
- 1 Condanar Sand-Snake \* (*Psammophis condanarus*, Merr.).
- 2 Well-spotted Snakes \* (*Dipsadomorphus multimaculatus*, Boie).
- 2 Olivaceous Water-Snakes \* (*Hypsihrina enhybris*, Schmeid.).
- 1 Aulic Snake \* (*Lycodon aulicus*, Linn.).

In reference to this collection I have received the following notes from Mr. Bligh:—“These reptiles were all obtained in the Minbu and Mague districts of Upper Burma. I held the post of Executive Engineer P. W. D. of the Minbu district, and obtained them by offering rewards to Burman villagers. After a few cash-payments had been made ‘on delivery,’ these people became very keen in hunting in the jungle for specimens. I had even house-spiders and earthworms brought by small children. Of course, the general impression was that the ‘Thakin’ was decidedly demented, but at present was harmless. The Burman villagers have a great deal to do in the neighbouring woods, and consequently have a good knowledge of animals. The Land-Tortoises were principally obtained in the low-wooded hilly country near Taungdwingyi, Mague district, and were hunted down by dogs, which bayed on finding the quarry. The Snakes and Lizards were generally noosed with horsehair nooses at the end of a long bamboo. The natives were a great deal more afraid of the Verticillated Geckos than any others. One or two men in a village could always be found equal to capturing the Snakes by depressing the head with the end of a stick or fork, and seizing it by the neck.”

Mr. Selater gave an account of some of the more interesting animals observed in the Zoological Gardens of Antwerp, Cologne, Düsseldorf, Hanover, Amsterdam, The Hague, and Rotterdam, which he had visited in June last.

In Antwerp, under the kind guidance of M. L'Hoest, he had examined the first living example he had ever met with of the very beautiful African Monkey, *Cercopithecus brazzae* (see P. Z. S. 1893, p. 443, pl. xxxiii.), from the Congo. This species somewhat resembles *C. diana* in its long white beard and white haunch-strips, but had in life a pale blue nose, besides its conspicuous red front. Other mammals noticed at Antwerp were a pair of Mountain Zebras (*Equus zebra*); a true Burchell's Zebra (*E. burchelli typicus*) without any markings on the legs; a pair of Sea-lions (*Otaria californiana*), with a young one lately born; and a pair of the smaller Buffalo of Western Africa (*Bubalus pumilus*). The pair of Hippopotamuses had now bred eight years in succession, and reared their young one in nearly every case. Among the birds noticed was a hen Westermann's Cassowary (*Casuarius westermanni*) in fine plumage.

In the well-ordered Gardens at Cologne (under the care of Dr. Wunderlich), Mr. Sclater had observed a fine pair of *Phacochoerus aliani* from Somaliland, five examples of *Cervus davidianus* (an adult male, two adult females, and two young males), examples of a small but very pretty Kangaroo (*Onychogalea frenata*), which he had not previously seen alive, and a specimen of *Bassaris astuta* from Mexico. A family of five Sea-lions (*Otaria californiana*) lived together in perfect harmony along with several Cormorants. Amongst the birds at Cologne had been noticed an example of *Haliaeetus branickii*, received in 1893, in which the base of the black tail was just beginning to show white feathers, as in the specimen in the Society's Gardens<sup>1</sup>; also specimens of *Gyps bengalensis* and *Cathartes urubitinga*, a pair of *Cygnus americanus*, and an example of a rare S. American Heron, *Ardea leucogastra*.

At the smaller but well-kept Zoological Garden of Düsseldorf (managed by Herr Inspector Goffart) there was a very fine and large adult male specimen of *Cercopithecus albigena*, with the long hairs on the neck and shoulders much developed. This animal had been obtained at Caio on the R. Luempe north of the Congo, and presented by Herr Robert Visser eight years ago. There was also in the Monkey-house a fine series of Mandrills (*Papio maimon*) of various ages. A male *Ovis musimon* had bred freely with some ewes of the domestic Sheep (*Heide-schaf*), and had produced many hybrids which were said to be perfectly fertile *inter se*. There was also in this Garden a large flock of *Ovis tragelaphus*—some 25 in number—of both sexes and all ages kept together.

In the Zoological Garden of Hanover (Herr Schäff, Director) were two examples of the *Comurus* which Mr. Sclater had described (P. Z. S. 1886, p. 539, pl. lvi.) as *C. rubritorquis*. Count Salvadori (Cat. Birds, xx. p. 190) had united this species to the Mexican *C. holochlorus*, but Messrs. Salvin and Godman had recently received examples of it from Nicaragua, and were of opinion that it was a valid species. There was a fine adult female Hippopotamus in this Garden—an imported specimen.

The Garden of the Royal Zoological Society, "Natura Artis Magistra," at Amsterdam (Director, Dr. Kerbert), always contained a large and well-ordered series of animals. Upon this occasion the following had attracted Mr. Sclater's special attention:—a young male of the South-American Marsh-Deer (*Cariacus paludosus*); a young female Sumatran Rhinoceros from Borneo (*Rhinoceros sumatrensis*); a well-marked example of the Side-striped Jackal (*Canis lateralis*, Scl. P. Z. S. 1870, p. 279, pl. xxxiii.); a Corsac Fox (*C. corsac*); and a fine adult female specimen of the Mountain-Antelope of Sumatra (*Capricornis sumatrensis*). The

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Sclater took this opportunity of exhibiting a drawing of the specimen of Branicki's Eagle (*Haliaeetus branickii*) living in the Society's Gardens, taken by Mr. Smit in July 1896 (Plate XXXVII.). This bird had been acquired by purchase from the Zoological Garden of Hamburg on Sept. 21, 1893 (see P. Z. S. 1893, p. 613).



J. Smit del. et lith.

HAMBURG 1896

Mintern Bros. Imp.