1903.]

316

Nov. 17,

Christmas-Island Dove (Chalcophaps natalis), from Christmas Island, in the Indian Ocean, presented by Capt. A.W. Cole, Oct. 27th.

Mr. Henry Scherren, F.Z.S., exhibited the front horn of a Burchell's Rhinoceros (Rhinoceros simus), the largest yet received in England from the Soudan. It was the property of Col. B. T. Mahon, C.B., D.S.O. (for whom it had been mounted by Mr. Rowland Ward), and measured along the anterior curve 364 in., with a circumference at the base of 193 in. This is only three-fifths of the length of the record horn obtained in South Africa by Roualeyn Gordon Cumming, which has a length of 621 in. In addition to the horn exhibited and that belonging to Capt. Hawker (cf. above, p. 194), other horns from the same region were in the possession of Major-Gen. Sir F. R. Wingate, Hon. Capt. McNaughten, Major Sanders, and Capt. J. G. A. Massey. Mr. Scherren stated that this Rhinoceros was reported as being fairly numerous on the northern boundary of the Congo Free State and in the adjacent parts of the Soudan, and that Mr. Rowland Ward had known of these horns coming from that district for many years before Major Gibbons secured his specimen (cf. P. Z. S. 1900, p. 949).

Mr. R. I. Pocock, F.Z.S., exhibited a piece of basalt picked up between tide-marks on the coast of Victoria, Australia, by Mrs. Kenyon, which contained a specimen of the web of the Marine Spider Desis kenyonæ, described in the 'Proceedings' of last vear (cf. 1902, ii. p. 102). Although broken, the web served to illustrate the habit of these marine spiders of spinning a closely-woven sheet of silk over a crevice in the rock as a protection against the rising tide.

Mr. Pocock also gave an exposition, illustrated by drawings, of a new suggestion as to the white rump-patches of Ungulata, with special reference to the races of Burchell's Zebra.

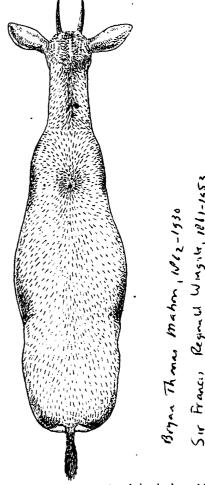
Mr. E. E. Austen exhibited specimens, with pupe, of Glossina palpalis Rob.-Desv., the species of Tsetse-fly which is the active agent in the transmission of sleeping-sickness in Uganda, by conveying Trypanosoma castellanii Kruse, the parasite which is the cause of the disease, from man to man. Examples of four other species of Tsetse-flies were also shown for the sake of comparison, and the general characteristics of the genus Glossina, which is confined to Africa, were pointed out. Attention was drawn to the remarkable mode of reproduction in the genus, which renders it impossible to attack the insects in their breedingplaces, as has been successfully accomplished in many places in the case of mosquitos; for, instead of laying eggs, Tsetse-flies produce but a single larva at a birth, which forthwith crawls away and assumes the pupal condition on reaching some sheltered spot. Seven species of Tsetse-flies are at present known, and of these at least two, Glossina morsitans Westw. and Gl. pallidipes Austen. are probably concerned in the dissemination of "Nagana," or Tsetsefly disease, caused by Trypanosoma brucei, among domestic animals. The demonstration of the connection between Glossina

ON A HAIR-WHORL IN A GAZELLE.

palpalis and sleeping-sickness in Uganda is due to the recent researches of Lieut.-Colonel Bruce, R.A.M.C., of which a detailed report is shortly to be presented to the Royal Society.

Mr. Oldfield Thomas, F.R.S., exhibited on behalf of Mr. de Winton a drawing of a female Cazelle (Cazella muscatensis (?)),

Text-fig. 35.



Diagrammatic sketch of skin of Gazelle to show hair-whorl on withers. obtained at Sheik Oman near Aden, and presented to the Society