

June 20, 1899.

Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER, F.R.S., Vice-President, in the Chair.

Mr. W. E. de Winton, F.Z.S., laid before the meeting a list of Mammals represented in a collection from British Central Africa that had been recently transmitted to Mr. Sclater by Mr. Sharpe, and made the following remarks :—

The good work of making collections of the fauna of Nyasaland for scientific purposes, started by the enterprise of Sir Harry Johnston, is being carried forward by the present Administrator, Mr. Alfred Sharpe, C.B., and the British Museum has just received a consignment of the larger Mammals through the Secretary of this Society. A list of the species, of which two are additions to those already reported, is as follows :—*Lycan pictus*, *Hystrix* sp. inc., *Rhinoceros bicornis*, *Equus crawshayi*, *Connochætes johnstoni*, *Cephalophus lugens*, *Ourebia hastata*, *Hippotragus equinus*, and *Tragelaphus roualeyni*.

The *Lycan*, a very fine male, and agreeing in every way with South-African specimens, is the first adult animal of this kind which has found its way to the National Collection from Nyasaland.

Two skins of Porcupines are unfortunately not accompanied by skulls, and in the absence of these it would be impossible to say to what species they belong. As has been pointed out by Mr. Oldfield Thomas (P. Z. S. 1896, p. 795), a Porcupine was sure to inhabit this district, and it is to be hoped that the skulls of these two specimens will be forthcoming later on.

Of the large mammals the only one new to the district is a Roan Antelope, and the very fine specimens of both sexes contained in the present collection show that the Nyasaland animal agrees with the typical form from Mashonaland.

It will be well to point out an error in the description of the Nyasaland Gnu and in the figure of that species in P. Z. S. 1896, pl. xxviii. In the dried skin the white mark on the face is distorted by the contraction of the thick skin of the suborbital glands, and has led the artist into the mistake of depicting the animal with a white V-shaped band instead of a chevron or Λ on the face. An excellent photograph, taken by Mr. James Harrison, of a freshly killed specimen shows the correct marking very plainly.

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Mr. de Winton exhibited the mounted heads of a male and female Red-flanked Duiker (*Cephalophus rufilatus* Gray) (see figure, p. 772), obtained by Mr. J. F. Abadie in the Borgu Country of the Niger district; also the skull of a male of the same species obtained by Capt. W. Giffard near Gambaga, in the back-country of the Gold Coast. The horns of the latter specimen measured 3.35 inches (or 86 millim.) in length, the basal length of the skull measured 5.3 inches (or 134 millim.), the greatest breadth of the skull (which is