

stigma, which is papillose, grows out, and a bee visiting a flower is struck by the stigma, when the papillæ being glutinous receive the pollen. The author also noted some experiments and observations on the action of the sensitive column.—Note on Bungwall (*Blechnum serrulatum*, Rich.), an aboriginal food, by Thos. L. Bancroft. The rhizome of this fern formed, with the nuts of the Bunya Bunya (*Araucaria Bidwillii*), the most important food of the aborigines of Southern Queensland.—On the nests and habits of Australian *Vespide*, by Walter W. Froggatt.—Description of *Calliostoma purpureo-cinctum*, a new Australian marine shell, by C. Hedley. A small Trochoid, ornamented with beaded sculpture, and coloured orange with a spiral lilac band, was added to the local fauna under the above title.—Note on the habitat of the Naked-eyed Cockatoo (*Cacatua gymnopsis*, Sclater), by Alfred J. North. Living specimens caught near Burketown in North Queensland, now on view in Sydney, have been examined; and there are specimens in the Macleay Museum from the Gulf of Carpentaria and from Port Darwin, and in the Australian Museum from Cambridge Gulf. The note of interrogation in the record of the habitat for this species given in the British Museum Catalogue of Psittaci ["South Australia (and also Northern and North-west Australia?")] may therefore be dropped.—Oological notes, by Alfred J. North, (1) *Ptilotis analoga*; (2) *Lamprococcyx malayanus*.—Observations upon the anatomy of the "dumb-bell-shaped bone" in *Ornithorhynchus*, with a new view of its homology, by Prof. J. T. Wilson. The "dumb-bell-shaped" bone is not confined to the palatine region, but both dorsally and posteriorly it is in intimate relation to the nasal septum. From the dorsal part of its hinder extremity it sends backwards a distinct vomerine spur, about 3 mm. in length, which is bifurcated posteriorly and grooved along its dorsal border, forming a splint for the ventral edge of the cartilaginous nasal septum. The tips of this bifid spur are connected with those of the anteriorly bifid end of the true vomer by means of a strong "vomerine ligament," varying in length from about 2 mm. downwards. In coronal sections this ligament is seen to possess the same sectional shape as the vomerine spurs, and to be structurally and morphologically continuous with the bone at either end. The vomerine spur lies quite dorsal to the palatine plate formed by the maxillæ, and it extends backwards to a plane from 2-3 mm. behind the tip of the anterior median process of the latter, from which it is separated by an interval. This interval forms a wide passage of communication (1 mm. vertically), below the nasal septum, between the nasal cavities of opposite sides, and it is lined by columnar epithelium like the neighbouring parts of these cavities. The "dumb-bell-shaped bone" is a true "anterior vomer" formed by the fusion of bilaterally symmetrical halves; and both in its nasal and in its palatine relations it resembles the palatine lobe of the vomer in *Caiman niger*.

DIARY OF SOCIETIES.

LONDON.

THURSDAY, MAY 21.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—On the Dynamical Theory of Incompressible Viscous Fluids, and the Determination of the Criterion; Prof. O. Reynolds, F.R.S.—Measurements of the Absolute Specific Resistance of Pure Electrolytic Copper; J. W. Swan and J. Rhodin.—On some Voltaic Combinations with a Fused Electrolyte and a Gaseous Depolariser; J. W. Swan.—On certain Functions connected with Tesseral Harmonics, with Application; Prof. A. H. Leahy.—On the Measurement of the Magnetic Properties of Iron; Prof. T. Gray.—Researches on the Electrical Properties of Pure Substances—No. I. The Electrical Properties of Pure Sulphur; Prof. Threlfall, J. H. D. Brearley, and J. B. Allen.—On the Influence of certain Natural Agents on the Virulence of the Tubercle Bacillus; Dr. A. Ransome, F.R.S., and Dr. Delépine.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Egyptian Decorative Art; Prof. W. M. Flinders Petrie.

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS, at 8.—The Cost of Electrical Energy; R. E. Crompton. (Continuation of Discussion.)

FRIDAY, MAY 25.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—The Development of the Astronomical Telescopes; Sir Howard Grubb, F.R.S.

PHYSICAL SOCIETY, at 5.—On the Passage of Hydrogen through Palladium; Prof. W. Ramsay, F.R.S.

SATURDAY, MAY 26.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION—Excursion to Luton, Caddington, and Dunstable. Directors: Mr. John Hopkinson and Mr. Worthington G. Smith.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, at 3.45.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, at 2.30.—Anniversary Meeting.

TUESDAY, MAY 29.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Modern Microscope; Rev. W. H. Dallinger, F.R.S.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Annual General Meeting.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.—Black and White in Africkanderland; W. A. Wills.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 30.

BRITISH ASTRONOMICAL ASSOCIATION (University College), at 5.

THURSDAY, MAY 31.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 4.30.—The following Papers will probably be read:—Propagation of Magnetisation of Iron as affected by the Electric Currents in the Iron; Dr. J. Hopkinson, F.R.S., and E. Wilson.—On the Electrification of Air; Lord Kelvin, F.R.S., and Magnus Maclean.—Note on the Possibility of obtaining a Unidirectional Current to Earth from the Mains of an Alternating Current System; P. Cardew.—The Effect of Mechanical Stress and of Magnetisation on the Physical Properties of Alloys of Iron and Nickel and of Manganese Steel; H. Tomlinson, F.R.S.—The Root of *Lygino leudson Oldhamia* (Williamson); W. C. Williamson, F.R.S., and D. H. Scott.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Egyptian Decorative Art; Prof. Flinders Petrie.

CAMERA CLUB, at 8.30.—Twenty Thousand Feet over the Sea; Mr. Edward Whympere.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 9.—The Work of Hertz; Prof. Oliver Lodge, F.R.S.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION (University College), at 8.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2.

GEOLOGISTS' ASSOCIATION.—Excursion to Finchley and Whetstone Park Director: Dr. H. Hicks, F.R.S.

BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—Twelve Charts of the Tidal Streams on the West Coast of Scotland; F. H. Collins (Potter).—The Tidal Streams of the Isle of Wight; F. H. Collins (Potter).—The Starry Skies; A. Giberne (Seeley).—This Great Globe; A. Seeley (Seeley).—Year-Book of the Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland, 11th Annual Issue (Griffin).—The Metallurgy of Gold; T. K. Rose (Griffin).—Materia Medica, Pharmacology, and Therapeutics. Inorganic Substances; Dr. C. D. F. Phillips, 2nd edition (Churchill).—Journal of the Iron and Steel Institute, Vol. xlv. (Spon).—Manual of Practical Logarithms; W. N. Wilson (Rivington).—Die Anfänge der Kunst; Dr. E. Grosse (Freiburg i. B., Mohr).—Flora der Nord-westdeutschen Tiefebene; Prof. Dr. F. Buchenau (Leipzig, Engelmann).—The Lowell Lectures on the Ascent of Man; Henry Drummond (Hodder).—Royal University of Ireland. Examination Papers, 1893 (Dublin, Thom).

PAMPHLETS.—Botanical Charts and Definitions; A. E. Brooke and A. C. Brooke (Phillip).—The Ethnography of Inishbofin and Inishshark, co. Galway; Dr. C. B. Browne (Dublin).—Scientific Taxidermy for Museums; Dr. R. W. Shufeldt (Washington).—Kew Observatory Report, 1893 (Harrison).—A Summary of Progress in Mineralogy and Petrography in 1893; W. S. Bayley (Waterville, Me.).

SERIALS.—Materials for a Flora of the Malayan Peninsula; Dr. G. King, No. 6 (Calcutta).—Journal of the Franklin Institute, May (Philadelphia).—American Naturalist, May (Philadelphia).—Journal of the Chemical Society, May (Gurney and Jackson).—Journal of the Polynesian Society, Vol. 3, No. 1 (Wellington, N.Z.).—Journal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, No. 3, Vol. xxiii. (Spon).—Veröffentlichungen aus dem Königlichen Museum für Völkerkunde, iii. Band, 3/4 Heft (Berlin, Spemann).

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