

—Dr. Koehne announced that he had succeeded in obtaining an electrolytic solution of carbon. Using pure carbon as anode, hot sulphuric acid as electrolyte, and platinum as kathode, he observed that the fluid became yellow and then dark brown or black, while at the same time a thin layer of graphite was deposited on the kathode. By means of carbon, hot sulphuric acid, and peroxide of lead, he obtained a galvanic cell, with a resistance of 100 ohms, which gave a current of one volt.

February 28.—Prof. du Bois Reymond, President, in the chair.—Dr. Martens spoke on the magnetisation of horizontal discs rotating in the terrestrial field, and made of various samples of iron, steel, and nickel, explaining how he had measured their magnetism by means of an astatic needle, and giving the values he had obtained.—Mr. Goode exhibited a vacuum tube for the production of Röntgen rays, on to which a system of bulbs and tubes had been fused and partially filled with mercury, so as to admit of the removal of any gases which had collected in the tube.—Mr. H. Starke explained a simple method of determining the electrical constants of solid bodies. It is based on the introduction into one arm of a Wheatstone bridge of a condenser between whose plates fluid mixtures of various dielectrics with varying electrical constants can be placed, and on the finding of a mixture such that when the given solid is immersed in it the constants of the mixture are not altered.—Prof. Lampe exhibited a series of Röntgen photographs taken by Prof. König in Frankfurt a-M., which were remarkable for their sharpness and the shortness of the exposure necessary for their production.—Prof. Rubens demonstrated Hertzian vibrations whose wave-length was $4\frac{1}{2}$ cm., and which, after being made parallel by means of a glass lens, were then polarised by the use of a set of three glass discs.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Linnean Society, November 27, 1895.—Mr. Henry Deane, President, in the chair.—On some developments of the mammalian prenasal cartilage, by R. Broom.—On a small fossil diprotodont marsupial, with large grooved premolars, by R. Broom. A more complete description from more perfect specimens of the little fossil marsupial described under the name *Burransys parvus* at the June meeting.—On a small fossil *Petaurus*-like marsupial, by R. Broom. Under the provisional name *Palaeopetaurus elegans* was described a small fossil marsupial from a bone-breccia deposit in the neighbourhood of Taralga.—On the organ of Jacobson in an Australian bat (*Miniopterus*), by R. Broom.—Observations on a gravid echidna, by R. Broom.—Stray notes on Papuan ethnology, by C. Hedley. An interesting carved figure-head, of the bird and crocodile design, "geroma," from a village in Bentley Bay, British New Guinea, was described. It was interesting as setting at rest the identity of the bird, a cassowary, which Prof. Haddon had in his monograph been unable to determine. He also described an ingenious palm-leaf basket "porha" in common use among the natives of Eastern British New Guinea.—On an undescribed structure in the leaves of certain plants, by Alex. G. Hamilton. In this paper was given a detailed account, with figures, of certain structures which have been found to be present in the leaves of more than thirty species of plants referable to various natural orders, respecting which the text-books and other literature available, beyond an incidental allusion or two, seem to furnish little or no satisfactory information. In their most complete form the structures in question appear as hair-lined cavities in the leaf substance, situated in the axils of the primary or secondary veins, and opening to the exterior on the under-surface of the leaf by a small opening with a thickened rim (as in *Pennantia Cunninghamii*, Miers, and *Coprosma lucida*). Experimental evidence was adduced against the view that they are catchment hollows for water; and the author was led to think that they were structures once useful, but now no longer functional, and in course of disappearing.—Preliminary note on the occurrence of a placental connection in the bandicoot (*Perameles obesula*); and on the foetal membranes of certain macropids, by Jas. P. Hill.—Notes on the eucalypts of New South Wales (No. 1), by Henry Deane and J. H. Maiden. The authors having for a considerable period made a special study of the eucalypts of this colony, both in the field and from dried specimens, gave the results of a series of observations in regard to the botanical structure, geographical distribution, &c., of a number of species belonging to the *Renanthera*.—Descriptions of some new Australian plants, by J. H. Maiden and R. T. Baker.

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BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, and SERIALS RECEIVED.

BOOKS.—The Glaciers of the Alps: J. Tyndall, new edition (Longmans).—Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society, Vol. xxvii. (Hodgson).—The Hymenoptera Aculeata of the British Islands: E. Saunders (L. Reeve).—Moorland Idylls: Grant Allen (Chatto).—The Whence and Whither of Man: Prof. J. M. Tylor (New York, Scribner).—Statesman's Year-Book, 1896 (Macmillan).—Single-Salt Analysis: B. P. Lascelles (Sonnenschein).—Geschichte der Explosivstoffe: S. J. von Romocki. II. Die Rauchschwachen Pulver (Berlin, Oppenheim).—Fear: A. Mossò, translated by E. Lough and F. Kiesow (Longmans).—Historical and Future Eclipses: Rev. S. J. Johnson, new edition (Parker).—Elements of the Theory of Functions of a Complex Variable: Dr. H. Durège, translated by Drs. Fisher and Schwatt (Philadelphia, Fisher).—Ostwald's Klassiker der Exakten Wissenschaften, Nrs 72, 73, 74, 75 (Leipzig, Engelmann).—Lehrbuch der Anatomie des Menschen: Prof. C. Gegenbaur, 2 Vols. Sechste verbesserte Auflage (Leipzig, Engelmann).—From the North Pole to Equator: A. E. Brehm, translated (Blackie).—Elementary Practical Chemistry: G. S. Newth (Longmans).—Researches on Mimicry on a Basis of a Natural Classification of the Papilionidae: Dr. E. Haase, translated by Dr. C. M. Child, Part 2 (Stuttgart, Nägele).—Atlas of Nerve Cells: Drs. Starr, Strong, and Leaming (Macmillan).—Handbook of Jamaica for 1896 (Stanford).—Calcul du Temps de Pose en Photographie: H. Boursault (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—Géométrie Descriptive: A. Gouilly (Paris, Gauthier-Villars).—A Fauna of the Moray Basin: J. A. Houley-Brown and T. E. Buckley (Edinburgh, Douglas).

PAMPHLETS.—Report for 1895 on the Lancashire Sea-Fisheries Laboratory at University College, Liverpool (Liverpool).—Démonstration de l'Axiome XI. d'Euclide: M. Frolov (Paris, Michelet).—Royal Gardens, Kew. Hand-list of Conifera grown in the Royal Gardens (Eyre).—Typhoon Highways in the Far East. No. 1. Across the South End of Formosa Strait (Zi-Ka-Wei).—On the Application of the Law of Similarity to Marine Propellers: J. D. Young (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—The San Jose Scale: L. O. Howard and C. L. Marlatt (Washington).—Observations Météorologiques, Magnétiques et Hydrométriques de l'île de Danemark dans le Sœresby Sound, 1891-92 (Copenhagen).

SERIALS.—Zeitschrift für Wissenschaftliche Zoologie, lxi. Band, 2 Heft (Williams).—Académie des Sciences de l'Empereur François Joseph I. Bulletin International Classe des Sciences Mathématiques et Naturelles, II. (Prague).—American Journal of Science, March (New Haven).—Journal of the Western Society of Engineers, January, and Supplement (Chicago).—Journal of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, March (Spon).—Journal of the Franklin Institute, March (Philadelphia).—Psychological Review, March (Macmillan).—Transactions of the Astronomical and Physical Society of Toronto, 1895 (Toronto).—Bulletin de l'Académie Royale des Sciences, &c., de Belgique, 1896, No. 2 (Bruxelles).—Memoirs and Proceedings of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, Vol. x. No. 1 (Manchester).—Astrophysical Journal, March (Wesley).—Royal Natural History, Part 29 (Warne).—L'Anthropologie, tome vii. No. 1 (Paris, Masson).—Economic Journal, March (Macmillan).—Timehri, December (Stanford).—Imperial University, College of Agriculture Bulletin, Vol. ii. No. 5 (Tōkyō).—Himmel und Erde, March (Berlin, Paetel).—Trans. R. S. Edin., Vol. xxxviii. Part 2 (No. 9): Specific Gravities and Oceanic Circulation: Dr. A. Buchan (Williams).—American Naturalist, March (Philadelphia).—Journal of the Anthropological Institute, February (Paul).—Das Tierreich, Probeliefg., Heliozoa: Dr. F. Schaudinn (Berlin, Friedländer).—Physical Review, Vol. iii. No. 5 (Macmillan).

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