

the trunk ; there is a dark brown streak across the temple. The belly is greyish, and finely and irregularly speckled with brown.

	inches. lines.	
Total length . . . . .	14	3
Length of the head . . . . .	0	5
Greatest width of the head . . . . .	0	3
Length of the trunk . . . . .	10	0
Length of the tail . . . . .	3	10

The maxillary teeth are of moderate size, of nearly equal length, in a continuous series, and entirely smooth.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### *Observations on the Corymbose Madreporæ.*

By M. A. VALENCIENNES.

ONE of our most elegant forms of Madreporæ is that called *Madrepora corymbosa* by Lamarck. Reducing the characters of the genus to those now fixed by Ehrenberg, and studying the fine specimens contained in the Museum at Paris, the author has found that Lamarck united, under the name of *Madrepora corymbosa*, at least three distinct species : one hollowed out into a very shallow cup, brought by Péron and Lesueur in 1803, for which he retains Lamarck's name ; a second, spread out in the form of a fan, which was obtained by the celebrated Professor of the Garden of Plants at the sale of the collection of Madame de Bois-Jourdain, which came from the Caribbean Sea, together with the first specimen ever seen in France of the recent *Encrinus* (*Encrinus caput-Medusæ*). To this species the author gives the name of *Madrepora flabilis* : it is characterized by the shortness of the branches, which are less slender than those of *M. corymbosa*, Lamk. and Val. The third species, more spread out and spinose, is named *M. corymbitis*, Val. ; it appears to be intermediate between the two preceding species.

M. Milne-Edwards, in his work on Corals, has added a fine species of these Madreporæ, to which he has given the name of *Madrepora flabelliformis* : it is from the seas of Vanikolo ; the specimen in the Paris Museum was obtained by MM. Hombron and Jacquinot in the voyage of Admiral d'Urville. This species is distinguished from the West Indian one by its closer and longer branches.

The Museum of Natural History has just acquired four new species of these corymbose Madreporæ, obtained at Marseilles by M. L. Rousseau, one of the assistants in the Museum. These beautifully preserved corals show, in a more certain manner than could have been suspected from the specimens deposited in our collections from the time of Lamarck, that the species of these corymbose Madreporæ obtained from the American seas are different from those of the great Indian Ocean, although preserving an analogous form in allied species. To establish this fact, the author first adduces the species to which he gives the name of *M. radicans*, of which the



corymb is covered with a considerable number of little mammillated stalks like small radicles. It comes from Guadeloupe. The analogous species from the Straits of Malacca has its corymb a little inflated like a cushion, which has caused the author to call it *M. circinata*; its stalks are higher. A second Indian species, with the corymb perfectly flat, has the cells longer, which renders the stalks more spinose. The author names it *M. expansa*.

In conclusion, the author remarks that "the balancing or reproduction of the forms of different species of animals, from either side of the hemispheres, enters into the grand law which was already recognized and expounded by Buffon, who established the fact that the species of the same genus almost always differ under the same latitudes, eastern or western."—*Comptes Rendus*, June 4, 1860, p. 1008.

*Note on some Parasites of Iulus terrestris.*

By M. D'UDEKEM.

The parasites met with by the author in *Iulus terrestris* are—an Infusorium, a Cryptogamous plant, and two Nematode worms belonging to the genus *Rhabditis*. It is to the latter that M. d'Udekem has particularly directed his attention. He has especially studied the generative organs,—an important subject when we consider the dispute which has arisen with regard to the reproductive system of the Nematoda, between Nelson, Meissner, Schneider, Bischoff, and Claparède. His results agree especially with those obtained in other Nematoda by Nelson, Thompson, and Claparède. As regards the fecundation of the eggs, the author refers it to an epoch when the egg is not surrounded by any membrane. There is therefore no occasion for the existence of a micropyle, an orifice which Meissner asserted that he had discovered in the ova of *Ascaris mystax*. M. d'Udekem succeeded in observing, in the spermatozoids of one of these *Rhabditis*, amoeboid movements similar to those indicated by Schneider and Claparède in other Nematode worms.—*Bull. de l'Acad. Roy. de Belgique*, 2me série, vii. No. 8.

*On a new Species of Bird (Chloronerpes sanguinolentus).*

By P. L. SCLATER, M.A.

*Olivascenti-brunneus: pileo coccineo: dorso toto aurescente, colore sanguineo perfuso: alarum superficie inferiore nigricante, albo tessellata: rostro et pedibus nigris.*

Long. tota 5·8, alæ 3·4, caudæ 2·6.

Omoa.

Rare; frequents small, dense bushes.

This apparently unnamed *Chloronerpes* is closely allied to *C. oleagineus* of Mexico and *C. fumigatus* of S. America, but is distinguished by its blood-stained back and smaller size.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* Jan. 25, 1859.





Valenciennes. 1860. "Observations on the corymbose Madreporae." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 6, 79–80.

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