

their respective stations, but the exploration of the intermediate tract may possibly bring to light a connecting link, which may reasonably be expected if *albus* is a variation due to migration. However, of the many examples I have seen of both, I have not observed any other variation than that of colouration, and then only of trivial amount. *P. albus* would appear to have been introduced to the South Australian fauna in comparatively recent times, as it has not yet been found in any of the raised beaches or other Pleistocene deposits which abound throughout the southern coast line of this continent.

P. meridionalis and *P. laticostatus* are certainly closely related species, and may be the direct descendants of a common ancestor; but, nevertheless, the divergence was prior to the Pliocene Period. The former is fossilised at Ascot Heath, W. Victoria, there associated with some extinct species of mollusca, the percentage number of which indicates for the deposit an antiquity equal to that of the Wanganui Series in New Zealand, the lowest horizon at which *P. laticostatus* is found. No species of *Vola* is known in earlier deposits in either Australia or New Zealand.

NOTE UPON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE SYDNEY CRAWFISH, *PALINURUS HUGELLI*, ON THE COAST OF TASMANIA.

BY W. SAVILLE-KENT, F.L.S., F.Z.S., SUPERINTENDENT AND INSPECTOR OF FISHERIES, TASMANIA.

A few weeks since one of the fishmongers of the city, Mr. Jones, of Collins-street, presented me with the specimen of crawfish which I now exhibit and that was taken in the neighbourhood of the Schouten Islands. I am informed by the fishermen that they have not unfrequently captured similar specimens, but that thinking from their colour, dull brown, or olive green, there was something wrong with them, they have usually thrown them overboard. A very superficial examination sufficed to show how widely it differed from the common Tasmanian form *Palinurus Edwardsi*, and the chief between the two distinctions I will briefly enumerate. The body shield or carapace is covered with even rows of smooth, sharp-pointed conical spines in place of the depressed hispid spines characteristic of our market species. The cervical and branchio-cardiac grooves are not conspicuously developed, but at the same time there is a deep sulcus immediately in front of the posterior margin. The beak or rostrum terminates in a very long and sharp projecting median spine, instead of with a short turned-up one as found in the Tasmanian crawfish.

The surface of the abdominal segments are comparatively smooth, being ornamented merely with scattered granules and punctæ, in place of being ornately sculptured or tuberculate, while their lateral edges or pleura are armed with seven or eight acuminate teeth instead of with two only as found in the Tasmanian type. All the points now enumerated accord with the diagnosis of the New South Wales species *Palinurus Hügelli* contained in Mr. Hassell's Catalogue of the "Australasian Stalk and Sessile-eyed Crustacea," and with which I have no hesitation in identifying it. To make more sure of this suggested identification, I remitted drawings of the more essential features of this crawfish to my brother, Mr. Acland Kent, at present residing in Sydney, asking him to compare them with the typical examples in the Sydney Museum. The comparisons instituted resulted in a full confirmation of my anticipations, and we may accordingly include Tasmania in the area of distribution of this species, and which it may be mentioned is regarded as identical with the *Palinurus tumidus*, Kirk, inhabiting North Island, New Zealand. I have much pleasure in presenting the specimen to the Society's Museum.

OBSERVATIONS ON A SUSPECTED HYBRID SPECIES OF TRUMPETER, AND UPON OTHER RARE FISH TAKEN IN TASMANIAN WATERS.

BY W. SAVILLE-KENT, F.L.S., F.Z.S.

I propose in this communication to make a few remarks upon certain varieties of fish that have been remitted me by the local fishermen within the past twelve months as varieties with which they were more or less unfamiliar.

The first specimen to which I have to draw attention was captured on the East Coast in a graball net in company with ordinary silver bastard trumpeter, and being brought to Hobart alive was kept for some time in one of the tidal ponds at the fishery establishment. When taken by the fishermen it was at once recognised by them as an unfamiliar form which could not be correctly identified with either the real trumpeter, *Latris hecateia*, or the ordinary red and silver bastard trumpeter, *Latris Forsteri*, but which combined the character of both of these familiar species in a very remarkable manner. The accompanying water-colour drawing (submitted to the meeting) taken from life, and of the natural size, will give an approximate idea of the shape,



Saville-Kent, William. 1886. "Note upon the occurrence of the Sydney crawfish, *Palinurus hugelli*, on the coast of Tasmania." *Papers and proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania* 1886, 116–117.

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