

disk which extends in the Common or Canada Stag above the tail, the Japanese Stag decidedly shows nothing of this kind. In this species the white colour is restricted to the abdomen, the inside of the thighs, the anal region, and the greater end part of the tail; the root of the tail is, on the contrary, of the same brown colour as the whole back and the rest of the animal."

It is probable, therefore, that the Japanese Deer described by me as *Rusa japonica* may be the same as the *Cervus sika*, though it differs so much from the figure and short description of that animal in the 'Fauna Japonica.'

### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Note on the Synonymy of the Fossil Genus Echinodon of Professor Owen.* By H. FALCONER, M.D.

*To the Editors of the Annals and Magazine of Natural History.*

GENTLEMEN,—I wish to make a correction through the medium of your pages.

In his late contribution to the Palæontographical Society, on the Purbeck *Lacertilia*, p. 35, Professor Owen erroneously cites me as the authority for the name *Sauræchinodon*, as a synonym of his *Echinodon*. It should have been *Sauræchmonodon*. With the barbarism ascribed to me, doubtless inadvertently, I have no concern.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. FALCONER.

London, Sept. 1861.

### *On the Death-wound of the "King of the Gorillas."*

The following letter, addressed by Dr. Gray to the President of the Zoological Section, was read at the meeting of the British Association recently held at Manchester:—

"British Museum, Sept. 6, 1861.

"My dear Professor,—It is with much regret that I feel myself called upon to correct an error which appears in the report of Prof. Owen's paper on the Gorilla, &c., contained in 'The Times' of this day. Prof. Owen is there represented as stating that 'the skin of the great male Gorilla, now in the British Museum, exhibits two opposite wounds, the smaller in front of the left side of the chest, the larger close to the lower part of the right blade-bone. Two of the ribs in the skeleton of this animal are broken on the right side, near where the charge has passed through the skin in its course outwards.' As this would appear to offer a direct contradiction to a statement made by myself, I cannot (although labouring at present under a severe attack of illness, and writing from a sick chamber) pass it over in silence.

"My attention was called to the subject by Mr. Joseph Beck, the well-known microscopist, who first made the observation that none





Falconer, Hugh. 1861. "Note on the synonymy of the fossil genus Echinodon of Professor Owen." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 8, 341–341.

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