all the West-Indian Islands, and had been several times in Dominica. But it was only in last year that he saw one of these Parrots for the first time. The only inhabitant of the island who had one domesticated was the Governor; and although Mr. Bernard offered a large price to the native sportsmen, it was only at the end of twelve months that they had succeeded in obtaining the young one now in the Society's possession. The natives of Dominica called this bird "*Ciceroo*."

The tenth of a series of memoirs, by Professor Owen, on the extinct Dinornithine Birds of New Zealand, was read. The present memoir contained the description of parts of the skeleton of a flightless bird, indicative of a new genus and species of the family, which Professor Owen proposed to call *Cnemiornis calcitrans*. The materials upon which the present paper was based had been gathered from the bottom of a fissure in a limestone rock at Timaru, in the Middle Island of New Zealand, by Dr. David S. Price. The *Cnemiornis* was supposed to have been of about the same stature as Bennett's Cassowary. The name chosen bore relation to the remarkable size of the processes of the tibia in this form.

This paper will be printed entire in the Society's 'Transactions.'

The following papers were read:—

1. On the Morbid Appearances observed in the Dissection of the Penguin (Aptenodytes forsteri). By Prof. Owen, F.R.S., F.Z.S., etc.

The Penguin was a male, but with the testes small, as at the non-breeding season. The coats of one of the large abdominal air-cells were thickened, and roughened by granular deposits of a caseous, quasi-strumous nature; and larger flattened masses of the same substance were scattered in the connecting substance of the diseased air-cell with the thoracic abdominal parietes. These appearances indicated old-standing disease. But the more immediate cause of death was inflammation of the coats of the stomach and adjoining peritoneum or air-cells. The stomach—a full oval cavity, about 6 inches in longest diameter—was distended with a mass of putrid yellow-grey pultaceous matter and portions of half-digested fishes. It occupied the hinder and under part of the abdominal cavity, extending from the sternum to the pelvis, and so closely adherent to the abdominal parietes that its coats seemed, on dissection, to be an inner or deep-seated layer of the abdominal muscles. The peritoneum, when separated, had a rough or finely gritty or granular surface, with red vascular inflammatory patches, and was adherent, beyond the stomach, to the mass of intestines.

The contents of the stomach were in so putrid a state as to lead to the inference that, for want of power of digestion, the ordinary chemical changes had commenced before the death of the bird, and been concomitant with, if not the cause of, the inflammation of that

viscus and of the abdominal membranes immediately external to it (*peritonitis*), which was the chief lethal morbid appearance observed in the dissection of the Penguin.

Among the rarer anatomical characters in birds may be noticed the well-developed urinary bladder, which, in the present species, in the almost empty state, was continued from the fore part of the urogenital compartment of the cloaca for $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length and 1 inch in breadth: the muscular tunic was well developed.

2. Notice of a New Species of Australian Sperm Whale (Catodon krefftii) in the Sydney Museum. By John Edward Gray, Ph.D., F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., F.L.S., etc.

In a letter which I lately received from Mr. Gerrard Krefft, the intelligent Secretary and Curator of the Australian Museum, he sent me some photographs (taken like those formerly sent by Mr. Henry Barnes) of a separate atlas vertebra and of the second and other cervical vertebræ united into one mass of a species of Whale, which are contained in the museum under his charge. The two bones, though not united, fit one another so exactly that Mr. Krefft has no doubt of their having belonged to the same animal; and the photographs sent justify this conclusion. However, should there be any mistake in this matter, it will not in the least invalidate the conclusion that I have come to, from the examination of these photographs, that they indicate the existence of a second species of Sperm Whale in the Australian Seas, very distinctly characterized by the subcircular form of the atlas vertebra and of the neural canal in it.

The mass formed by the second and other cervical vertebræ is somewhat similar to these bones in the skeleton of the Australian *Catodon* lately received by the Royal College of Surgeons, which I hope will shortly be described by Mr. Flower, the energetic Curator of their Museum, who, in his late paper on the *Balænidæ*, has shown how well he can describe and determine the species of Whales.

The genus *Catodon* should be divided into two subgenera, according to the form of the atlas, thus:—

I. *The atlas oblong, transverse, nearly twice as broad as high; the central canal subtrigonal, narrow below.* Catodon.

1. Catodon macrocephalus of the Northern Ocean. A skeleton from Scotland, in the British Museum.

2. Catodon australis, Macleay, of the Southern Ocean. A skeleton in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, from Hobart Town.

II. *The atlas subcircular, rather broader than high; the central canal circular in the middle of the body, widened above.* Meganeuron.