

REPORTS

OF THE

COUNCIL AND AUDITORS

OF THE

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

OF LONDON,

READ AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

APRIL 29, 1843.



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the sum of £14,690 2s. 8d. Of this sum, £500 was invested in Exchequer Bills during the last season, but taking into account the difference in the amount of the cash balance at the end of the last and previous years, the actual saving on the year has been only £376 18s. 1d. For more detailed information on this subject, as well as with regard to the Finances of the Society in general, the Council beg to refer to the Report of the Auditors.

II. SCIENTIFIC ESTABLISHMENT.

1. MUSEUM.

In the last Anniversary Report it was announced that the Council had made a provisional selection of a design for the erection of a Museum at the Gardens, and that negotiations for that purpose had been opened with the Commissioners of Woods and Forests on the basis of the Resolution of the Special General Meeting of the Society held on the 8th of July 1841. Unforeseen difficulties arose during the progress of this negotiation, especially with respect to the site of the proposed building, which caused such protracted delays as induced the Council to reconsider the whole subject; and it has been finally determined to convert the present Carnivora House, enlarged by a new building of equal dimensions on the south, into a Museum for the reception of the preserved Collections. The space thus afforded will, it is conceived, be sufficient for the immediate wants of the Society; whilst the plan has the further advantage of being attended with a very material saving in the estimated outlay. The new building at present in process of erection is to be completed by contract for the sum of £803, and the necessary alterations in the present Carnivora House and the removal of the Collections will probably cost about as much more; so that the Council confidently expect to complete the two important works at present in progress at the Gardens—the Museum and Carnivora Terrace—for a less sum than that originally voted by the Society for the Museum alone. Both these works, the latter of which will be more particularly referred to in a succeeding part of this Report, will be completed by the middle of June, and the animals and preserved collections removed into them as soon as possible afterwards.

Donations to the Museum.

The following is a List of the principal Donations to the Museum since the last Anniversary :—

A Collection of Skins of Quadrupeds, viz.

Rhinoceros bicornis. Adult.

Hippopotamus amphibius. Adult.

Catoblepas Gorgon. Male and Female.

———— Gnu, *Auct.*

Antilope ellipsiprymnus. Male.

———— melampus. Male.

———— lunata.

———— caama and young.

———— equina. Male and Female.

———— oreotragus.

———— pediotragus.

Megalotis lalandii.

Lepus saxatilis.

———— arenarius.

Herpestes fasciatus, and Gerbillus afer.

The Skins of seventy-one Birds, and a valuable Collection of Insects, containing 541 species (1177 specimens) of various orders. The whole from the interior of Southern Africa, presented by the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby, President.

An extensive and valuable Collection of Skins, principally from Sincapore and Borneo, consisting of 39 Mammals, 249 Birds, 1 Reptile, and a large Case of Shells, presented by James Brooke, Esq., of Borneo, Corr. Member.

A valuable Collection of Bird-Skins from India, containing 460 specimens, and the Heads of three Antelopes, presented by Walter Ewer, Esq., F.Z.S.

A Specimen of a Duck from British Guiana, apparently undescribed, presented by R. H. Schomburgk, Esq., Corr. Member.

Specimens of an Angler and a Sword Fish (*Xiphias gladius*, Linn.), presented by John Sweeting, Esq.

Twelve Bird-Skins, and some specimens of Sponges, &c., from Newfoundland, presented by Edward Lee Moore, Esq., of St. John's, Corr. Member.

A Specimen of a Manis, presented by the Right Hon. Sir Alex. Johnston.

A Nest of an Oriole, built in an Aviary in the Garden of James Ford, Esq., of Clapham, presented by that Gentleman.

The following Specimens in Spirit:—two Freshwater Tortoises, three Birds, one Shrew, one Bat, one Rat, and one Helix from Samsoon. Also two Hedgehogs, two Frogs, a Blind Worm, and a Snake from Trebizond, presented by Edward Dalzell Dickson, M.D., of Constantinople, Corr. Member.

Specimens of 10 Birds and a Lizard, in spirit, from Erzeroom, presented by Henry James Ross, Esq., of Erzeroom, Corr. Member.

A Collection of Specimens in spirit, consisting of a Box Fish (*Ostracion*), a rare Shell (*Triton*), two deformed Chickens, a Flying Fish, a Tetraodon, three specimens of *Scolopendra*, the larva of a *Cerambyx*, and some Lepades, presented by H. Pointer, Esq.

Three Bird-Skins, and a Collection of Insects and Birds' Eggs, from Erzeroom. Also the Skull of a Samsoon Hare, presented by Messrs. Dickson and Ross, Corr. Members.

Various Specimens of Crustacea arranged in a glass case, and the following specimens in spirit:—six Reptiles, two Fishes (*Hippocampus*), one Zoophyte, two Spiders, two Bats, and a larva of a Coleopterous Insect. Presented by John N. Tweedy, Esq., Vice-Consul at Port-au-Prince, Corr. Memb.

A Specimen of a Flying Phalanger (*Belidea ariel*), presented by John Gould, Esq.

A Specimen of the Spotted Salamander (*Salamandra maculosa*), presented by the Earl of Orkney, V.P.

A Skin of the Black Bear (*Ursus Americanus*), a Skin of the Grisly Bear (*Ursus ferox*), and three Skins of the Bison (*Bos Americanus*), presented by the Hon. Charles Aug. Murray.

Four Man-of-War Bird-Skins (*Tachypetes*), two Coursers (*Cursorius* —), and one Kestrel (*Cerchneis* —), from the Island of Bona Vista, presented by John Rendall, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape de Verd Isles.

An Antelope (*Antilope Ogilbyi*, Waterh.), a Monkey (young) (*Cercopithecus Pogonias*), an imperfect Skin of *Colobus leucomeros*, an imperfect Skin of *Viverra Civetta*, three Bats, two Squirrels (one the *Sciurus Poensis* of Dr. Smith), an

Antelope's Horn, and twenty-three Bird-Skins, all collected in the late Expedition to the Niger, presented by T. R. H. Thompson, Esq., Acting Surgeon on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel Soudan.

Nineteen species of Testacea, collected at Chusan, presented by Dr. Cantor, Bengal Medical Service, Corr. Memb.

The Skin of a Yak (*Bos poëphagus*), presented by Mrs. Farrell.

Donations have also been received from Lord Courtown; Rev. R. T. Lowe, Corr. Memb.; A. Empson; H. L. Porter; C. Grove; Capt. Reynolds; and George Wood.

2. LIBRARY.

The principal donations to the Library since the last Anniversary have been—

Transactions and Proceedings of the Linnean Society of London, presented by the Society.

Transactions and Proceedings of the Geological Society of London, presented by the Society.

Transactions and Proceedings of the Entomological Society of London, presented by the Society.

Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, presented by the Society.

Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Munich, presented by the Academy.

Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin, presented by the Academy.

Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Stockholm, presented by the Academy.

Transactions of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Turin, presented by the Academy.

Transactions of the Society for Encouragement of the Arts, &c., presented by the Society.

Transactions of the Imperial Academy of Naturalists of Breslau, presented by the Academy.

Besides Proceedings, Journals, Bulletins and Memoirs from the following learned bodies:—The Royal Academy of Sciences of Paris, the Museum of Natural History of Paris, the Imperial Society of Naturalists of Moscow, the Royal Academy of Sciences of Brussels, the Royal College of Sur-