

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL,
FOR AUGUST, 1885.

The Monthly General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal was held on Wednesday, the 5th August, 1885, at 9.15 P. M.

Dr. R. L. MITRA, President, in the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Several presentations were announced, as detailed in the Library List appended.

The undermentioned gentleman, proposed and seconded at the last meeting, was balloted for and elected an ordinary member of the Society :

John Barnett, Esq., Branch Pilot.

Mr. G. S. Leonard and Colonel S. T. Trevor have intimated their wish to withdraw from the Society.

The PRESIDENT announced that Dr. A. F. R. Hoernle had resumed his duties as Philological Secretary, and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. J. Beames for his services during Dr. Hoernle's absence.

The vote was carried unanimously.

The PRESIDENT reported that the Council had sanctioned the publication, in the Bibliotheca Indica Series, of the following works :

1. The Sāt Sai of Tulsi Das, to be edited by Pandit Beharilal Chaubé of the Patna College.
2. A translation of the Tuzakh-i-Jahangiri, by Professor W. H. Lowe of Cambridge.

Read a letter from the Superintendent, Government Central Museum, Madras, forwarding a specimen of a Viraraya Gold Coin (Fanam) found in the Calicut Taluq and acquired under the Treasure Trove Act.

The NATURAL HISTORY SECRETARY (MR. WOOD-MASON) exhibited *Lyreidus Channeri*, a remarkable new blind Brachyurous Crustacean from the depths of the Bay of Bengal and said—

Four species of true *Brachyura* were dredged up from depths exceeding 100 fathoms during the past season by H. M.'s Indian Marine Survey Steamer 'Investigator.' They belong to the genera *Amathia*, *Ethusa*, *Encephaloides* (new genus allied to *Collodes*, Stimpson), and *Lyreidus*, of which the last named is especially interesting on account of the rudimentary condition of the eyes. These organs are unequally reduced: the cornea of the left being of the normal form and extent, but opaque and devoid of all traces of facets, as in *Munidopsis*, *Orophorhynchus*, *Nephropsis*, and other blind forms of the deep sea, while that of the right is entirely aborted, its place being only indicated by a small smooth spot marked out by the transparence of a lead-coloured pigment similar to that which is seen through the integument around the base of the left eye. This interesting brachyuran, which is at once distinguished from the Japanese and American species by having the anterolateral margins of the carapace armed with two pairs of long and slender spines, was trawled up from a depth of 285—405 fathoms, bottom temperature 48°—50° Fahr., in the 'Swatch of no Ground', off the mouths of the rivers Ganges and Brahmaputra.

The PHILOLOGICAL SECRETARY, exhibited copy of the following Persian inscription from Sherpur, sent by Mr. J. Anderson, Magistrate of Murshidabad.

قال الله تعالى كل من عليها فان ويبدق وجه ربك ذو الجلال

دیدیم مسجدیکه درو سر بسر صفا است

آرے صفا چرا نہ بود خانہ خدا است

در عهد شاه جهان بناء يسد علي متولي

سنه ۱۰۳۸ جري

God the most high has said, "Every creature which liveth on the earth is subject to decay; but the glorious and honourable countenance of thy Lord shall remain for ever."