

1859

rainson.  
ains. B. of W. Afr. ii. p. 250.  
n *S. Hirundo*. From the Camma.

birds impossible to identify, but apparently of  
re young of a dark colored species.

üppell.  
üpp. Atlas, Birds p. 37, pl. 24.  
ed as having been obtained on the Camma.

mminck.  
nm.  
th.  
Pl. Col. 380.  
ly similar to specimens from Eastern and Southern  
m.

ein.  
Bonap. Consp. Av. ii. p. 165.  
a." Bonap. as above.  
om *S. bassana* by its black tail. Numerous spe-  
rom the Camma.

lin).  
m. Syst. Nat. i. p. 177.  
ins. B. of W. Afr. ii. p. 255, pl. 31.  
Camma.  
e the catalogue of the present highly interesting

was held, and Dr. Jas. C. Fisher was duly

[June,

July 5th.

MR. LEA, President, in the Chair.

Present thirty-seven members.

Mr. Lea presented the following, which was referred to a committee :  
Description of four new species of Exotic Unionidæ.

Mr. Lea read letters which he had received from Dr. Lewis of Mohawk, New York, in which he mentions the astonishing number of dead shells of *Anodonta* *Lecontei*, Lea, in the canal, also the immense number of dead specimens of *Cyclas*, as they lie in beds from three to eight inches deep. He says he had taken two gallons of living specimens from an area of six by four feet. They do not burrow deeply in the mud, while the *Unio* goes down two feet. Mr. Lea compared this mass with the great deposit of fresh water gasteropods at Milk Pond, N. J. Dr. Lewis also collected specimens on the East Branch of the Unadilla, a small stream fourteen miles south west of Mohawk, and got about 200 *Anodonta Unadilla* DeKay = *An. edentula*, Say. Subsequently he visited Cedar Lake, a small body of water in Herkimer County, the south shores of which were composed of a greenish white marl, consisting of the remains of untold millions of shells. In the middle branch of the Unadilla, Dr. Lewis says, "I stopped just long enough to find one living specimen to be sure it was there. Dead shells were not rare, but I did not spend much time, only to learn the character of the stream, so as to be able to verify your opinion that *Anodonta Unadilla* was only a local variety of *An. edentula*, Say."

Mr. Lea also mentioned that he had received specimens in alcohol of *Unio Kleinianus*, Lea, from G. Hallenbeck Esq., of Columbus, Georgia, to which that ardent naturalist called his attention, as possessing a *branchial uterus in both lobes of the branchia on each side*. This very remarkable feature in the functions of the female of this species, constitutes the third which has been observed by Mr. Lea, two he had formerly shown to the Academy, namely, that of *Unio multistriatus*, Lea, and *rubiginosus*, Lea.

July 12th.

Vice-President LE CONTE, in the Chair.

Present nineteen members.

Prof. Holmes exhibited a collection of fossils from the post-pliocene of South Carolina. He remarked :

If we examine the collection of remains of vertebrated animals taken from the post-pliocene or post-tertiary beds of South Carolina which I have the pleasure of exhibiting this evening to the members of the Academy, we will be surprised at the resemblance in many of the forms to corresponding parts of some of our domestic animals, as the horse, dog, hog, bull, etc., and the question may very naturally suggest itself—are the living horses, dogs, hogs, raccoons, opossums, deer, elk, tapirs, beavers, etc., and the one hundred and fifty species of mollusca now living on the coast, the descendants of the animals whose remains we find fossil in these beds,—or are these truly fossil remains, and not accidental occupants of this deposit?

My object is not to enter upon a discussion of these questions, but simply to exhibit the collection, and state the facts connected with their discovery, and the geological evidence of their being true fossils found in an extensive formation in the low country of South Carolina, included in a belt about ten miles wide, and occupying depressions in the great marl bed of the Eocene period.

Three distinct formations or beds are here supposed to belong to this post-pliocene age. First the marine beds, composed of a gray sandy clay in which are imbedded innumerable small shells, sometimes very comminuted, but of species now common and living on the coast; many of the large shells are

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