

died at the commencement of the hot season, when the maximum of temperature was only 80°, a temperature seldom reached for two hours a day, or for two days of that month, March.

"The Chiru is extremely addicted to the use of salt in the summer months, when vast herds are often seen at some of the rock-salt beds which so much abound in Thibet. They are said to advance under the conduct of a leader, and to post sentinels around the beds before they attempt to feed."—*Hodgson in Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.* 1831, p. 52.

The nasal tumours which form so remarkable a peculiarity of the species, are stated by Mr. Hodgson, in a subsequent paper, "to consist of fine elastic skin and cartilage, similarly to the nostrils, immediately behind the posterior boundary of which they are situated, and into which they open freely, being, in fact, a prolongation backwards, and accessory dilatation of that reflection of the skin which lines the nostrils. Externally they present a round, firm, elastic swelling on each lip, well defined, and covered with hair like the adjoining parts; internally they constitute a sac, of capacity to contain a marble, lined with the same skin that lines the nostrils, and not communicating with the interior of the nose except by and through the ordinary nostrils, into which the sacs open forwards by a slit that will admit the finger to be passed into it; and thence all over the interior of the sac. These sacs are usually defiled with *mucus*, secreted from the nose; and they seem to be nothing more than supplementary nostrils, designed to assist this exceedingly fleet animal in breathing when he is exerting all his speed, for the expansion of the nostrils opens them also, and their elasticity allows of their being dilated in the manner of the nostrils. There is no appearance, either external or on the bones of the face, of the lachrymal sinuses." *Id.* 1833. p. 110.

"The female is hornless, and has two teats only; she has no marks on the face or limbs, and is rather smaller than the male. The male has a large pouch at each groin, as in the Dorcas Gazelle; that of the female is considerably smaller." In conclusion, Mr. Hodgson's opinion as to the position of the species in the system is, that "The Chiru with his bluff bristly nose, his intermaxillary pouches, and hollow-cored horns," (the bony core of the horns having a large oval cavity, communicating by one clean canal with the frontal sinuses) "stands in some respects alone," and hence Mr. Hodgson is disposed to suggest, that it should be regarded as representing "a new subgenus, to be termed *Pantholops*, the vulgar old name of the Unicorn.—The habits and manners of the *Chiru*, his medial size, and his elegant vigorous form, ally him most to the *Antilopine* and *Gazelline* groups, and equally to both." (*Id.* 1834, pp. 80-81.) This opinion is shared by Dr. Gray, who, in his last published arrangement of the Ruminantia, (List of Ungulata Furcipedes in British Museum, 1852,) places the *Chiru* in the same subdivision as the Gazelles; under the amended title of *Pantholops Hodgsonii*.

Colonel Hamilton Smith remarks, "The species might still have remained unnoticed in the elevated wildernesses of Central Asia, if the people of the country had not asserted it to be the Unicorn, and since the specimen is produced, insisted that it is often found with only one horn. No doubt all the" Antelopes of this group "are liable to break one of their horns, when we consider their length, small diameter, and the vigour and courageous disposition of the animals." *Griffith's Cuvier*, 4, p. 198.

The following papers were then read:

ON THE LEPIDOPTEROUS INSECTS OF THE DISTRICT AROUND LIVERPOOL. By Charles Stuart Gregson, Esq.\*

ON THE ADVANTAGES OF THE STUDY OF NATURAL HISTORY, IN OUR NATIONAL OR PEOPLE'S SCHOOLS. By Charles Stuart Gregson.

The introduction of Natural History more fully and formally into our National Schools, was strongly advocated; though the writer gladly admitted that the principle

\* Transactions, p. 153; continued from Transactions vii, p. 254.

had been already recognised in part; and he noticed several school treatises on the subject. His opinion was that ordinary schoolmasters and pupil teachers might easily be instructed in the principal branches of Natural History, so far as to initiate their pupils, and to enable them to prosecute individual departments with success, when taste and opportunity existed. Besides securing the young against the formation of vicious habits, such studies would add materially to their enjoyments, and might lead to still higher results in pointing them "from Nature up to Nature's God." But in a utilitarian age, it was of great importance to be able to shew that an acquaintance with natural products, animal vegetable and mineral, was useful to the man of business; and this the writer did by reviewing the daily occurrences in some of the ordinary occupations of life.

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6th March, 1856. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

THE REV. DR. THOM, V.P., in the Chair.

Mr. Robert Daw, F.B.S.E., Comptroller of the Customs at Liverpool, and Mr. Charles Hardwick, of Preston, were duly elected Members of the Society.

The following Donations were laid upon the table:—

From Gilbert J. French, Esq. *Bibliotheca Albinsoniana*, a Book Catalogue.

From the Society. Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, volume XII, part 1.

From the Author. *Sigilla Ecclesiæ Hibernicæ Illustrata*, by Richard Caulfield, B.A., parts 1 and 2.

From the Author. *The Provident Institutions of the Working Classes; and Provident Institutions of the Working Classes, their Precarious Financial Condition; two tracts*, by Charles Hardwick, Esq.

From the Editors. Two copies of a Paper entitled "Sabbath Defence," containing the Report of a Public Meeting in defence of the Sabbath, held at St. George's Hall, 22nd January, 1856.

From Thomas Moore, Sen., Esq. Report on the present state of the Navigation of the River Mersey, by George Evans, Capt. R.N., Acting Conservator, 1856.

From William Kelly, Esq., Leicester. Three Wood Engravings, representing respectively—Fragment of a Roman Pavement, Roman Milestone imperfect, and Roman Milestone restored.

From Dr. Kendrick. Various cuttings and slips, being cuttings of local Notes and Queries from the *Warrington Guardian*.

From Dr. Thom. Printed Report of a Meeting of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society, September 18th, 1855.

From Mr. Dunkin, of Dartford. *The Archæological Mine and New History of Kent*, parts i-xx, also parts xxi, xxii, and Supplement.

From Mr. H. Eeroyd Smith. *Roman Tesselated Pavements*, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, from the grounds of Andrew Lawson, Esq., of Aldborough, Yorkshire.

Tesselated Pavement discovered in Jury Wall Street, Leicester, in 1830; and another from the same town, discovered in High Cross Street, 1875.

Mr. Blackmore exhibited and explained four stone celts and two bronze spear heads. Of the former, two were found near Galway, one at Backton, in Cumberland, and one in New Zealand. Of the latter, the more perfect specimen was discovered in 1851, in a bog at Leenane, Connemara, about six feet from the surface.