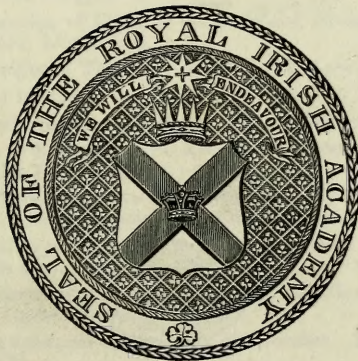


PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

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* The third of the tables of the elastic force of vapour, referred to in this communication, pp. 443, 444, has been erroneously attributed to Mr. Lubbock.

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December 10.

SIR WM. R. HAMILTON, A. M., President, in the Chair.

John Herbert Orpen Esq. was elected a member.

Professor Mac Cullagh presented two papyri, the gift of George James Knox, Esq. by whom they were lately brought from Upper Egypt.

RESOLVED,—That the Council be directed to take the proper steps to unroll and preserve the papyri.

Mr. Ball read a paper entitled “Description of the *Cydidippe pomiformis*, Patterson, (*Beröe Ovatus*, Flem.), with notice of an apparently undescribed Species of Bolina, also found on the Coast of Ireland.” By Robert Patterson, Esq., Member of the Natural History Society of Belfast.

The author referred to a paper of his published in the Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal for January 1836, giving some account of a tentaculated *Beröe*, taken in abundance by him at Larne Lough, County of Antrim, in the Spring of 1835. He then noticed the occurrence, on different occasions in 1836-7, of a *Beröe*, exhibiting a peculiar ramiform arrangement of whitish internal vessels, branching off from near the lower part of the stomach to the several bands of cilia; and detailed the observations by which he was enabled to identify this with the *Beröe* described in Mem. Wer. Soc., vol. iii. p. 400, by Fleming,—the tentacula having escaped the notice of that writer, from the specimen he examined having been in an exhausted state when these organs were retracted within the body. The presence of the tentacula removes the animal from the Genus *Beröe* of Fleming, to the *Pleurobrachia* of the same author (*Cydidippe Eschs.*) and as the specific name *Ovata*, under which it was described in the Hist. of Brit. Animals, has been applied to

a different species, Mr. Patterson proposed that it should be designated as the *Cydippe pomiformis*.

The disappearance of the internal ramiform vessels was next noticed, and the steps by which the writer was enabled to ascertain that the species now brought forward was identical with that described by him in 1835; and consequently, that a *Beröe*, of the occurrence of which we have no record, except of one individual taken in 1820, was abundant on the Irish coast. Particular reference was made to Doctor Grant's paper (*Zool. Trans.* vol. i. p. 9,) on *B. Pilens*, with a view to indicate the several points of agreement and of difference between these, the only two British species of tentaculated *Beröes*. The structure of the Cilia, the aqueous currents at their base, the position and structure of the tentacula, the food of the *Beröe*, its vitality, consistency, want of phosphorescence, movements, iridescence, times of appearance, and diffusion round the coast, formed the principal topics embraced in the remainder of the paper.

The occurrence of the *Bolina* on different parts of the Irish coast was mentioned, principally for the purpose of enabling Mr. Patterson to refer to some points of its economy for comparison and contrast with the *C. pomiformis*. He reserved a detailed account of various particulars concerning it to a future opportunity, when he expected to be able to exhibit additional figures taken from living specimens, and more accurately delineated than those at present brought forward. Meantime, as the animal differed from the two species of *Bolina* described by Mutius, he proposed to name it provisionally *Bolina Hibernica*.

The President read a paper by the Rev. Dr. Robinson "on the Longitude of the Armagh Observatory, given by Chronometers and other Methods."

After remarking the inconveniences, or uncertainties, which to a certain extent attend the methods of determining