

# AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

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nature of the ground, they are all very rotten, and difficult of extraction and preservation. The wash-dirt appears to be of poor quality, although containing a few gem-stones, running in narrow gutters between hard granite bars. The bones procured were chiefly those of *Diprotodon*.

Through the courtesy of Mr. W. T. Ditchworth, the Manager of the Crown Point Gold Mining Co., Ltd., I was able to inspect the workings of the Marshall-McMahon Reef, where a quartz lode carrying free gold, and another with very refractory ore, are worked. I was fortunate enough to obtain good specimens for our collection.

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ADDITIONAL LOCALITIES FOR *PERIPATUS*  
*LEUCHARTII*—Säng.

BY THE LATE FREDERICK A. A. SKUSE, Entomologist.

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The writings resulting from the researches of Dendy, Spencer, Fletcher and others, have for some time past aroused considerable interest in *Peripatus* in Australia; so that every scrap of additional information respecting these remarkable creatures may be considered of some value, and the evident interests attached to a new discovery affecting our knowledge of *Peripatus* lends no mean impetus to its investigation and the seeking out of its distribution.

During a recent visit (Oct. 22nd, 1895) to Colo Vale, near Mittagong, N.S.W., Mr. Edgar R. Waite\* chanced upon a specimen of *P. leuchartii* † whilst searching beneath fallen timber for reptiles and insects. Colo Vale lies on the Great Southern Railway line, seventy-two miles from Sydney, and the specimen of *Peripatus* was obtained at an altitude of 2,000 feet.

Other examples have just been presented to the Museum by Mr. C. J. McMasters, who obtained them at Moree, New South Wales, and plentifully by the Curator in November, 1895, in and under rotten logs in the vicinity of the Jenolan Caves, Blue Mountains, New South Wales, at an altitude of 4,000 feet.

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\* Waite; Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. (2), x., 1895, p. 549.

† Fletcher; Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. (2), x., 1895, p. 183, considers "all the known Australian specimens of *Peripatus* as referable to one comprehensive species, *i.e.*, *P. leuchartii*, Säng.

It might here be mentioned that in 1887 Prof. Jeffrey Bell contributed a note\* on the "Habitat of *Peripatus leuchartii*," wherein he mentions that previously the place of origin of this species was vaguely stated as "New Holland" and on the receipt of two specimens from Dr. E. P. Ramsay, of Sydney, gave the Queensland scrubs, near Wide Bay, as the more precise locality. The error is perpetuated by Sedgwick,† who incidentally remarks, "the finder's name has not been communicated to me."

I would point out that the specimens referred to as coming from Wide Bay were collected by myself on April 3rd, 1887, when I obtained several examples under stones close to the Hospital and Acclimatisation Society's Grounds, in Brisbane. These were handed to Dr. Ramsay, who sent two specimens of them to Prof. Bell for study. They were ultimately forwarded to Prof. Sedgwick for inclusion in his Monograph.

Mr. Henry Tryon previously recorded‡ the finding of other examples from the same locality in conjunction with myself, but their identity with those mentioned by Sedgwick has not to my knowledge previously been made known.

Mr. Chas. Hedley tells me that he found *Peripatus* under a log by the road-side at the altitude of 2,000 feet in 1889 at Cunningham's Gap, South Queensland, and that this specimen was pronounced by Mr. Tryon, then of the Queensland Museum, to be *P. leuchartii*, which determination was no doubt correct.

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## DESCRIPTION OF A NEW PAPUAN LAND SHELL.

By C. HEDLEY, Conchologist.

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### THERSITES SEPTENTRIONALIS, *n. sp.*

Shell turbinate conic, narrowly perforate, large, solid, brownish-yellow with deep chocolate bands. A third of the base is occupied by a broad chocolate band whose outer margin reaches the insertion of the lip, a yellow peripheral zone of less width follows, a chocolate band as wide as the last and which becomes supersutural in the upper whorls, a narrow yellow, a wider chocolate, a narrow yellow, and a narrow subsutural chocolate

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\*Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (5), xx., 1887, p. 252.

†Qt. Journ. Micro. Sci., xxviii., 1888, p. 431.

‡Proc. Roy. Soc. Qd., iv., 1887, p. 78.