

# AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Hedley, Charles, 1923. The largest *Hippopus*. *Records of the Australian Museum* 14(2): 138. [10 December 1923].

doi:10.3853/j.0067-1975.14.1923.836

ISSN 0067-1975

Published by the Australian Museum, Sydney

nature culture **discover**

Australian Museum science is freely accessible online at  
<http://publications.australianmuseum.net.au>  
6 College Street, Sydney NSW 2010, Australia



## THE LARGEST HIPPOPUS.

BY

CHARLES HEDLEY.

Interesting data relating to the size attained by the great Clams was published by the late Mr. Edgar Smith.<sup>1</sup> He observed that the British Museum had recently acquired from the Philippine Islands a specimen of *Hippopus hippopus* which was  $13\frac{1}{4}$  ins. long 16 lbs. 9 ozs. in weight and far exceeded in size the largest specimen previously known.

But these dimensions again are exceeded by a shell which, in company with Dr. H. A. Pilsbry, I obtained alive on September 14th, 1923, at low tide on the Pandora Reef, near Palm Islands, off the coast of Queensland, in about  $18^{\circ} 50'$  S. Lat. This individual weighs 28 lbs. 9 oz., and is  $15\frac{5}{8}$  inches in total length,  $10\frac{3}{4}$  in height, and  $10\frac{3}{8}$  in breadth of conjoined valves. With increase of age, this species becomes more inequilateral by disproportionate increase of the posterior end, also the beaks become greatly incurved.

Since writing the above, Mr. H. A. Longman kindly informs me that he has in the Queensland Museum, an *H. hippopus* from Orpheus Island, Queensland, which is 41 lbs. in weight when cleaned, and is  $18\frac{5}{8}$  inches in length between parallels.

---

<sup>1</sup> Smith, Proc. Malac. Soc. iii, 1898, p. 111.