Notebook 26B

Fossil Remains
etc.

Grey's Journal

1. At K.G.S. the terminating syllable of all names is dropped.
2. All verbs, with a very few exceptions, end in gur at K.G.S. instead of the varying termination which is given them in Perth.

I think it is the horror and fear of the unknown that causes a woman to kill her deformed child. She fears she or it has been influenced by magic.

Customs analogous to Scripture :-

Lacerating themselves I Kings 18, v. 28

Jeremiah XLVIII, v. 37

Deuteronomy XIV, 1 & 5

Genesis XXIV v. 19

Isaiah XLV, 4 & 5

Genesis XXX, v. 11

Deuteronomy XXIII, 12 & 13

Leviticus XV, v. 19

Desert gum yeenmas are made from, also cyprus pine yeenmas got from about 175 miles beyond Laverton.

Gibson, geological Museum

Sthenurus occidentalis, sp novo

Mammoth Cave at the mouth of the Margaret River only about 2 miles. It was found with many other fragments of bone and teeth. Owing to the true significance of the find not being apparent to those engaged upon the work many valuable portions were doubtless destroyed and lost, while even those to hand suffered considerably from rough usage.

Even in the condition in which the specimens were, it was possible to assert with some degree of certainty that it is a new species of the long extinct form of marsupial sthenurus, a fact of exceptional interest as this genus of the Macropodidae has not previously been recorded from W.A. Now that the original form has been revealed and the characteristics and other points of importance disclosed it is possible that we are dealing with the lower jaw of an adult animal which has had all its true molars in use.

A description of the mandible is as follows :-

Sthenurus Owen

Sthenurus (Owen Phil. Trans. Roy. Soc. Lon. 1874, P. 264)

Syd. Cat. Fossil Mam. P. IV 1887, P. 231

Protemnodon Owen (Partim)

Loc. cit. 1874, P. 174

Procoptodon Owen

Owen loc. cit. 1874, P. 788

Lydekker loc. cit. 1887 P. 233

After careful examination of numerous specimens Devis (Proc. Linnaean Soc. N.S.W. 2nd Series Vol. X, P. 1) P. 88) in a Rev. of the fossil jaws of the Macropodidae in the Queensland Museum came to the conclusion that an amalgamation of procoptodon and sthenurus was demanded by their verisimilitude of tooth sculpture and by the occurrence of forms of transition between the two.

Protemnodon is quoted as Owen referred the maxilla of P. anak to S. atlas, an error which was corrected by Lydekker (loc. cit. 31)

In the British Museum catalogue quoted above Sthenurus and procoptodon are kept distinct as two separate genera.

The specimen consists of the major portion of the left mandibular ramus embracing the incisor tooth, the diastema, all the cheek teeth, Premolar 4, m 1, m 2, m 3 of Owen) and the lower part of the coronoid process of the right mandibular we have the anterior portion up to and including the 3rd cheek tooth M2 (M1 of Owen). Although in several fragments all the features come out with remarkable distinctness. The chief point to be noted is the undoubted symphysial anchrylosis proved by a portion of the right ramus having a fragment of the left attached to it, a feature of no little value in the determination of the specific relationship of the specimen. All the milk teeth have been shed and of the permanent dentition every member shows signs of wear, particularly the earlier ones to appear, the last molar M 4 has been up in position for no little time.

Description

Adult ♂ The last molar M 4 showing traces of wear.

Measurements

Left mandibular ramus with incisor (i) premolar (p.4) and 4 molars (M 1, M2, M3, M4) all in place and in line.

It is possible to make the following measurements chiefly on the left side which is the more perfect. Incisor tooth (i) vertical diameter at base of enamel 11½ mm, transverse diameter 7 mm, greatest width of the enamelled crown 13 mm, greatest thickness of same 6½ mm, length from base of enamel to extremity of the worn crown 22 mm; distance from posterior base of enamel of incisor to front edge of d 4, 22½ mm.

Length of entire series of cheek teeth from anterior edge of p. 4 to hind edge of M4, 61 mm (to extremities of crowns only 56½ mm.

The Ramus

The lower jaw differs considerably from that of the kangaroo (macropus), firstly it is much more solidly built, which, together with the shape and size of the teeth suggest that the animal's food consisted of hard vegetable matter, branches, twigs of trees, etc., then the erastena being so very short and the angle between the ramus of no mean size we find we have the remains of an animal whose skull would much resemble that of the wombat (phascolomys fossor). The diastema being horizontal instead of inclined is another point of difference from macropus.

De vis loc cit 79 Oldfield Thomas would term the animal aged.