

In the left horn: the first, *female*; the second, third, and fourth, *MALE*; and the fifth, sixth, and seventh, *female*.

A third female rabbit, kept from the male until the rut was at its extreme height, in order that the ova might reach their greatest degree of maturity, had three young on the right, and four on the left side. These were—

In the right horn: the first, *MALE*; the second, *female*; and the third, *MALE*.

In the left horn: the first and second, *MALE*; the third, *female*; and the fourth, *MALE*.

It is evident that these observations upon a multiparous mammal do not bear out Thury's law, especially as there are more males than females, even in the first case, when copulation took place at the commencement of the rut. Nevertheless the preponderance of males (5 : 2) in the last instance is remarkable.—*Comptes Rendus*, May 8, 1865, p. 941.

*On a new Species of Basse (Labrax Schoenleinii) from Celebes.*

By Professor PETERS.

In a collection of fishes from Celebes received by the Zoological Museum at Berlin from the bequest of the late Dr. Schönlein in 1840, there is a species of *Labrax*, a genus which, as now constituted, has been regarded as limited to European seas. In his notices of the fauna of Celebes and of the Indian seas generally, Bleeker mentions no species of *Labrax*. Hence this fish might be regarded as not really coming from Celebes, but for its being referred to in Schönlein's original catalogue of fishes from Celebes as "no. 12. *Labrax punctatus*, n. sp.," along with only 112 other species, all of which are well known to occur in the seas of that part of the world.

This species agrees most nearly in its dentition and colouring with that which Dr. Günther (*Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Sept. 1863) has lately distinguished from the other two Mediterranean species under the name of *Labrax punctatus*, regarding it as *Sciæna punctata*, Bloch. The present species has the same number of fin-rays as the one just mentioned, namely, D. 9 – 1, 13; A. 3, 12; lateral line with 58 to 60 scales, above it 9, and below it (to the anal fin) 11 rows of scales; it differs greatly from Bloch's figure (pl. 305) by its much narrower præoperculum, between the posterior margin of which and the eye there are only three rows of scales.

In *Labrax diacanthus* and *L. punctatus* the distance of the margin of the præoperculum from the eye is equal to the diameter of the latter; in the present species it is only one-half of it. In this respect it is more like *L. orientalis*, Gthr., from the Egyptian coast.

Professor Peters agrees with Dr. Steindachner in thinking that *L. elongatus* (genus *Dicentrarchus*, Gill) is to be united with *L. diacanthus*, Bloch (*Lupus*, Lacép.). Ehrenberg's specimens from Alexandria, referred to this species by Valenciennes, all have three anal spines, whilst two other examples of *L. diacanthus*, from Cete and Trieste, present *abnormally* only two spinous rays in the anal fin.—*Monatsber. Berl. Akad. der Wiss.*, February 1865, p. 95.