

If P be any point $(a\beta\gamma)$, and P' its isogonal conjugate, then
 (i) expresses that PP' passes through the fixed point $(\alpha_0\beta_0\gamma_0)$,
 (ii) expresses that PP' is parallel to the line $la+m\beta+n\gamma=0$,
 and (iii) expresses that PP' touches the conic $\frac{\alpha_0}{a} + \frac{\beta_0}{\beta} + \frac{\gamma_0}{\gamma} = 0$.

Such curves as the above possess the property that the tangent at any point transforms isogonally into a conic touching the curve at the isogonal conjugate of the point of contact of the tangent.

ART. XXXII.—*Right-sidedness.*

By JOSHUA RUTLAND.

Communicated by T. W. Kirk.

[*Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 7th August, 1907.*]

Plate XXIV.

Soon after the red deer became sufficiently numerous in the Pelorus bush to justify the Marlborough Acclimatisation Society issuing shooting licenses I commenced collecting heads of all ages, regardless of their appearance, my object being to study the growth of the horns.

Many of the heads that came into my possession appeared deformed, owing to the right and the left horns differing much in size and outline. This want of symmetry I soon perceived was common to animals of every age, from fawns with simple horns to old stags with many-branched antlers.

Looking over a collection of these unsymmetrical heads to ascertain whether there were any marks of violence which might account for the deformity, I noticed that in all the right horn was larger and better shaped.

After this discovery I carefully examined every deer's head—shapely or unshapely—that came within my reach, and found that wherever there was a perceptible difference in the size of the two horns the right horn, without exception, was larger than the left.

The accompanying photograph (Plate XXIV) by Mr. Paul Clifford shows two fawns' heads and the head of an old stag, in all of which the greater size of the right horn is very conspicuous. The fourth head, at the top of the picture, appears quite symmetrical from a short way off, but a closer examination shows the right horn is stouter than the left. Several

heads of this description have come under my notice, showing that the difference in the size of the horn does not always amount to a deformity.

In a note to an article published in the *Zoologist* for March, 1904, Mr. A. Heneage Cocks records the following: "I have never seen the fact noticed that the right eye of young mammals opens before the left. I do not remember an exception among wild animals, nor even among domestic animals, though it is very likely some occur in the latter class. From the time the lids of the right eye begin to part to the time the left eye is fully opened takes generally from thirty-six to forty hours." Commenting on this the editor of *Knowledge* remarks, "The fact is as new to us as it is to Mr. Cocks, and requires an explanation. The suggestion naturally occurs that the phenomenon is connected with 'right-handedness' in the human species."

It would be interesting to discover whether stags, when fighting, use the right and left horns indiscriminately, or whether they endeavour to strike with one horn more than the other.

ART. XXXIII.—*A New Placostylus from New Zealand.*

By HENRY SUTER.

[Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 2nd October, 1907.]

Plate XXV.

MANY years back, when reading Dr. A. Lesson and Martinet's "Les Polynésiens," I came across, in vol. iv. (1884), p. 227, the following passage, of which I made a note: "Le *Bulimus hongii*, Pupuharakeke, se trouve surtout près du cap Nord; il y abonde parmi les *Phormiums*. Cette belle coquille est de couleur chocolat foncé, avec l'intérieur blanc ou orange brillant; elle a près de 4 pouces de long. On dit que le *Bulimus vibratus* abonde sur les Trois Rois."

When Captain J. Bollons told me last autumn that he had to visit and stay for several days at the Great King Island, I asked him to be good enough to have a search made for specimens of *Placostylus*, if time would permit it. How great was my joy when in the middle of April, 1907, he brought me a number of living and some empty specimens of a large and distinct *Placostylus* he had been successful in finding under dead leaves on the Great King Island. I was prepared for a form similar to that found at Cape Maria van Diemen, but certainly not for such a distinct new species. My very best thanks are due