

removing this bank, and in doing so has lifted an immense quantity and variety of shells, of which a few are now exhibited. The question is how was this large sand-bank formed; and did the shells live on it, for they show little or no signs of abrasion, as would probably be the case if they had drifted any distance? If they did, have they all been killed by impurities in the water, for none are found living? The sand-bank extends from the N. W. corner of Darling Point a distance of at least 1200 feet towards Garden Island. There is only 12 feet of water at the end and 6 feet at about 600 feet out. As deep as has been dredged, say for 28 feet at least, the bank is all pure sand. — Mr. Fletcher exhibited specimens of a fly (fam. *Phytomyzidae*) the larvae of which in great numbers have infested several composites — cinerarias, thistles, but more particularly the marguerites and summer chrysanthemums — in Sir William Macleay's garden adjoining, during the last two months; so numerous have they been that many of the plants have been quite spoiled for horticultural purposes. Also, for the Hon. W. R. Campbell, M.L.C., specimens of crickets (apparently a species of *Gryllus* which, in the Macintyre River District during March and April last before the frosts set in, appeared in myriads, doing considerable damage to the sweet potato and lucerne crops, and injuring even blankets. — Mr. Froggatt exhibited and read a short note on the life-history of a dipterous insect belonging to the genus *Syrphus*. The specimens exhibited were bred from some pale green larvae, found upon Eucalyptus leaves which were covered with the larvae of *Psyllidae*. While keeping the *Psylla* in a damp box, some very minute grubs were noticed to be crawling about among the cells; these grubs rapidly increased in size, feeding on the sweet sugary matter into which the moisture of the box caused the lerp to melt, but not eating the helpless little larvae whose homes they destroyed. On the seventh day they were found to have transformed into top-shaped pupae, lying at the bottom of the box; after removal to a glass-topped box, the perfect flies emerged on the fifth day. Kirby says that the larvae of *Syrphus* in England live on the aphids. Also specimens of a small leaf-boring fly (*Phytomyza* sp.) of the same species as that exhibited by Mr. Fletcher, but bred from the leaves of the sunflower. And some rare galls received from Mr. French, F.L.S., recently named by Maskell »The horn scale« (*Frenchia casuarinae*). These remarkable homopterous galls come from the Wimmera, Victoria, and are found on *Casuarina suberosa*.

2. Annonce.

Le Docteur Joubin, maître de conférences à la Faculté des Sciences de Rennes, serait extrêmement reconnaissant aux Naturalistes et aux Musées qui voudraient lui donner, communiquer ou vendre des Brachiopodes conservés dans l'alcool en vue d'une étude anatomique de ces animaux. Les espèces exotiques lui seraient particulièrement utiles. Prière de lui adresser les offres au Palais Universitaire, Rennes (Ille-et-Villaine, France).

3. Berichtigung.

In No. 379, p. 445, Zeile 16 von oben muß es (unter *Hyppocrene*) heißen: »Radialcanäle zu Magentaschen erweitert«. (Die Worte »schmal, nicht« sind zu streichen.)

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