

has a deep and wide Pleurtomoid sinus above and a rounded projecting lobe in the middle below which it is again retracted.

Entomological Section, Mr. Henry Skinner, Recorder. — March 25th, 1896. — Mr. Geo. H. Horn made a communication regarding the synonymy of the Elateridae. He specially described the prosternum of *Ludius*. A Lower California form had the prosternum of different shape from that of the other members of the genus, the mesosternum being more protuberant. It will probably be referred to *Probothrium*. — Mr. Chas. S. Welles exhibited specimens of the larva of *Harrisimemna trisignata*. When full grown they bore into wood preparatory to changing into crysalids. — A paper was read entitled »The breeding habits of *Periplaneta orientalis*«, by C. Few Seiss. Three females deposited twenty-five egg-cases. Each of these contain sixteen eggs to that a new generation of four hundred cockroaches was represented by the deposit. The first of these egg-cases were dropped May 5th. and May 14th, 1895, and were hatched November 9th. In most cases the deposits were dropped with no attempt at concealment although in a few instances they were placed in little trenches made by the insect and then covered up. The development of the capsules was described. The young probably receive no maternal care or protection. — M. Lancaster Thomas exhibited an improved form of insect net frame made of a continuous piece of rounded aluminum wire. — M. Westcott suggested linoleum as a substitute for cork in the arrangement of insects. Mr. Henry Skinner called attention to a fungus, *Polyporus betulinus* which might be used for the same purpose with advantage. — Mr. Wm. J. Fox stated he had about ninety species of *Hymenoptera*, six of which were perhaps new to science, and were included in the collections of insects brought by Mr. A. Donaldson Smith from Western Somali Land, Africa.

April 14, 1896. — In connection with the presentation of a collection of recent and fossil Strombidae Mr. H. A. Pilsbry discussed the ancestry of *Strombus costatus* and *Melongena subcoronata*, their relations to fossil species being illustrated by large suites of intermediate forms. — Mr. Jos. Willcox commented on the influence of environment on the species as illustrated by the specimens presented. It was apparent that those from the southern coasts of Florida swept by the Gulf Stream were all of a dwarfed type. — Mr. Benj. Sharp related the plentiful abundance of a Ctenophore, *Mneopsis Leidyi* in a fresh water pond near Nantucket. The embryos had been swept in by an accession of salt water and had accustomed themselves to their new environment. The species did not however persist in the pond in consequence probably of the severity of the winter. Specimens of the species referred to were beautifully preserved in a two percent solution of formaline. — Mr. Pilsbry announced the finding by Mr. Chas. Johnson for the first time in the eocene of Texas of a representative of the genus *Scalpellum*. It is a new species for which the name *Chamberlaini* was proposed in recognition of the services of the Rev. Mr. L. T. Chamberlain to paleontological science.

### III. Personal-Notizen.

Herr Dr. J. Purcell befindet sich am Zoologischen Museum in Capstadt (Cape of Good Hope). Er bittet, für ihn bestimmte Sendungen dorthin, unter der Adresse: »Museum, Cape Town, South Africa« richten zu wollen.

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