

eyes of many Diptera, and the amazing iridescent hairs of a mammal, the Cape Golden Mole, *Chrysochloris aurea*, 5 (Fig. 1), showing the fine imbricated scales, *i*. In addition there are the brilliant *setae* of the "sea-mouse," a marine

worm (*Aphrodite aculeata*). In plants not many iridescent structures are found, with the exception of the beautiful Pteridophyte, *Selaginella Wildenowii*, which glistens with a very strong blue and purple metallic sheen.

### Obituary.

#### ARTHUR SIDGWICK AS NATURALIST.

THE admirable notice of the late Arthur Sidgwick in the *Times* of September 28 describes him as "naturalist," as well as "scholar" and "politician." It is a true and just description. The love of natural history developed early, and was always one of the strong and essential elements in his intellectual life.

Sidgwick was twenty-seven, and had been a master at his old school—Rugby—for three years, when Wallace's article "On Mimicry and other Protective Resemblances among Animals" appeared in the *Westminster Review* for July, 1867, and it had the same effect upon him as, in its later form, reprinted in the "Essays on Natural Selection," it had on the present writer. A few months after reading it, Sidgwick, on November 9, read his paper "On Protective Resemblances among Insects" before the Rugby School Natural History Society (pp. 23–26 of the report for 1867), in which he not only gave an admirable review of the article, but was also able to draw on his own past experience as a naturalist for illustrations. There is one slip in his reference to Wallace's account of Bates's epoch-making paper, for he spoke of the Heliconidæ and their *Leptalis* mimics as "white," whereas they are brightly coloured, while the *Leptalis*, abandoning an ancestral white, have become brightly coloured also.

Among Sidgwick's original observations in the paper, the following are quoted by Wallace in his revised essay (p. 45 of the 1875 edition):—

I myself have more than once mistaken *Cilix compressa*, a little white and grey moth, for a piece of bird's dung dropped upon a leaf, and *vice versa* the dung for the moth. *Bryophila glandifera* and *perla* are the very image of the mortar walls on which they rest; and only this summer, in Switzerland, I amused myself for some time in watching a moth, probably *Larentia tripunctaria*, fluttering about quite close to me, and then alighting on a wall of the stone of the district, which it so exactly matched as to be quite invisible a couple of yards off.

Observations of this kind were far from well known in those days, only a few years after the appearance of the "Origin of Species."

Sidgwick was a man of strong opinions; what he believed he believed intensely. Yet, with all this, he was exceptionally modest. I recall a later paper of his on the same subject as the earlier, read before the recently established Oxfordshire Natural History Society. In the discussion some criticisms were passed upon the relative value of the destructive agencies of which he had spoken. He accepted the remarks of much younger

members with perfect kindness, and ended by saying that he hoped "to do better next time."

These memories lead naturally to thoughts of his simplicity, and with it his delightful and infectious boyishness. One came in to ask for his ever-ready help in coining some scientific term, and found him testing his latest toy, a little typewriter, and then everything must give way to a race between the player and the writer—the latter much handicapped by the banging of the machine; or a simple form of billiard table had displaced the heaps of books, and a game must be played; or a chunk of marzipan emerged and must be shared.

Sidgwick's sympathy with the aims of science in university life was not bounded by his love of natural history. In the conflicts which often arose, and were bound to arise, between the old, which is really modern, and the new, which is a return to the ancient ways, Sidgwick always supported science. I never knew an exception in the years when we were closely associated.

Among the notices and memories of Arthur Sidgwick I have seen, there has been no reference to the two volumes of "School Homilies," addressed, from 1870 onwards, to the boys in Canon J. M. Wilson's House at Rugby. The addresses deal, as Canon Wilson says in his introduction, "with apparently commonplace subjects, but they lifted every subject out of the commonplace." They should be read by everyone who wishes to know the man and all that he stood for.

E. B. P.

By the death of M. LOUIS DUCOS DU HAURON we lose one of the foremost pioneers in the photography of colour. M. du Hauron was born on December 8, 1837, and died on August 31 last. *La Nature* of September 25 publishes a portrait taken in 1877, and the *British Journal of Photography*, Colour Supplement, of October 1 gives the portrait by which he is generally known, taken evidently some years after the other, and a useful chronology of his work. It seems that he began the study of luminous sensations in 1859, and that by 1862 he had worked out a method of colour photography by means of three colour filters and complementary printing; but his chief contributions to the subject are contained in two small volumes, which, unfortunately, are now very rare—"Les Couleurs en Photographie: Solution du Problème," published in 1869, and "Les Couleurs en Photographie et en particulier l'Héliochromie au Charbon," published in the following year. In these publications he enunciated