

noticed the extraordinary fact that in the males of the North-American species of the genus *Nisoniades*, these organs were asymmetrical. The asymmetry is confined to the lower lateral plates, which are unusually developed in this genus, and shows itself in the diverse length of the lower process and in the size, and the entireness or the excision of the lateral flap. The only species in the genus, as generally accepted, which does not come under this rule, is *N. Catullus*, but the structural features of all the appendages of the body of this species show that it is wrongly placed in this relation. Mr. Scudder also stated that the butterfly described by Dr. Harris in his State Report as *Eudamus Bathyllus*,—a name invariably accepted by subsequent writers—was not the species originally described and figured by Abbot and Smith under the same specific name; he therefore proposed to call Harris's species *Eudamus Pylades*. Mr. Sprague referred to an instance related by a friend not versed in entomology, where "flies" were seen, through a hole in the ice in midwinter, to ascend in large numbers from the bottom of a stream to the surface and take flight. Mr. B. P. Mann stated that he had taken a specimen of *Carabus Chamissonis* Fisch., in Labrador. Mr. F. G. Samborn remarked that he had taken ten or twelve specimens of the same species in August, on the sides of Mount Washington, N. H., at a height of from four to five thousand feet above the sea. He also reported the capture in Andover, Mass., on Christmas Day, 1869, of *Cagnia* and *Teniopteryx*, moving actively upon the ice; of several *Staphylinidae* of the genera *Lathocium*, *Stenus*, *Philonthus* and *Lithocharis*, together with *Photinus corruscus* and larvae of *Telephorus*, and some undetermined Coleopterous and Geometridous larvae, also a species of *Salda* (Hemipterous), and of *Diptera*, *Hydrophorus pirata* Loew, and *Sepsis* sp., which were struggling in water of about one-eighth inch in depth, covering the surface of the ice in meadows. A great number of *Arachnida*, mostly of small size, were noticed under the same circumstances, and appeared to represent many species. He was in pursuit of the aberrant forms, *Boreus* and *Chionea*, but several hours of careful search failed to reveal any specimens of either.

PARIS

Academy of Sciences, March 21.—The following papers relating to various departments of physics were read: A note on the variations of the calorific capacity of water towards the maximum of density, by M. Hirn; on the angle of adjustment of a liquid with a solid wall, by M. Moutier; a description of a vertical galvanometer with a balance, suitable for use before large audiences, by M. Bourbouze.—The chemical papers were rather numerous, and included a note on the analysis and uses of the rock known in the Ardennes under the name of *gaise*, or *pierre-morte*, by MM. H. Sainte-Claire Deville and J. Desnoyers, upon which M. Elie de Beaumont made some remarks.—A note by M. Descloiseaux upon some crystallised derivatives of the coal hydrocarbons; a memoir on the action of sulphuret of carbon and carburetted gases upon wood charcoal, by M. Sidot; a note on cobalt and manganese and their alloys with copper, by M. A. Valenciennes; a note on a new method of preparing hydrobromic acid, by MM. Champion and Pellet; a note on the properties of iodic acid, by M. A. Ditte; one on the hydrogenated derivatives of sulphuret of carbon, by M. A. Girard; a note on the vitality of beer-yeast, by M. Melsens; an important note by M. J. Raulin on the chemical conditions of the life of the lower organisms; a paper on tribromhydrin, by M. L. Henry; and a note on the isomeric xylenes and cumenes in the coal-oils, by M. Rommier.—M. Rosenstiehl also presented a paper on the nature of the motor force which produces the phenomena of endosmose; and M. E. Martin an electro-chemical investigation of ozone.—M. Blanqui forwarded a letter describing an instrument for solving spherical triangles without the aid of tables of logarithms; and M. Bowen a continuation of his communication relating to the distance of the sun, of which the titles only are given.—M. Chasles made known a theorem relating to the theory of surfaces which had been communicated to him by Mr. Spottiswoode.—M. Coumbary's notice of the fall of an aerolite in Barbary (given in our last number) was communicated by M. Le Verrier, who also presented some observations on storms in Norway during the year 1869, by M. Mohn of Christiania.—With the exception of a few medical miscellaneous notes, three botanical papers complete the list of communications at this meeting: these were the continuations of M. Trecul's and M. Chatin's valuable researches upon the tracheæ of ferns, and the causes of the

dehiscence of anthers (the latter completed), and a notice of a remarkable case of subdivision of the top of a palm-tree, by M. Ramon de la Sagra.

DIARY

THURSDAY, MARCH 31.

ROYAL SOCIETY, at 8.30.—On the relation between the Sun's Altitude and the chemical intensity of total daylight in a cloudless sky: Prof. Roscoe and Dr. Thorpe.—On the acids contained in Crab-oil: Mr. W. J. Woufor.
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, at 8.30.—On the Crypt of the Chapter-house at Westminster: H. Harrod, F.S.A.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Chemistry of Vegetable Products: Prof. Odling.
LONDON INSTITUTION, at 7.30.—Geology: Dr. Cobbold.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 8.—Artificial Alizarine: Prof. Roscoe.
ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTION, at 4.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—The Sun: J. Norman Lockyer, F.R.S.

MONDAY, APRIL 4.

LONDON INSTITUTION, at 4.—Chemistry: Prof. Bloxam.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 2.—General Monthly Meeting.
ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 7.
MEDICAL SOCIETY, at 8.
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, at 4.
VICTORIA INSTITUTE, at 8.—On Comparative Psychology: E. J. Morshead.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—Phallic Worship: H. M. Westropp.—The Influence of the Phallic Idea in the Religion of Antiquity: C. Staniland Wake.
ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Nervous System: Prof. Rolleston, M.D., F.R.S.
INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, at 8.—Discussion on St. Pancras Station.—On the Dressing of Lead Ore: Thomas Sopwith, jun., Memb. Inst. C.E.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6.

SOCIETY OF ARTS, at 8.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7.

ROYAL INSTITUTION, at 3.—Chemistry: Prof. Odling.
CHEMICAL SOCIETY, at 8.—On the Analysis of Deep-sea Water: Dr. John Hunter.—On the refraction equivalents of the aromatic Hydrocarbons and their derivatives: Dr. J. H. Gladstone.—On an acid Feed-water from the Coal-fields of Shellarton, N.S., and the results of its use: Prof. How.
LINNEAN SOCIETY, at 8.—On new species of Annelids, &c.: Dr. Baird.—On Algæ from the North-Atlantic Ocean: Dr. Dickie.

BOOKS RECEIVED

ENGLISH.—A Poor Man's Photography at the Great Pyramid: Prof. Piazzì Smyth (H. Greenwood).—The Week of Creation: G. Warington (Macmillans).—The Philosophy of the Bath: D. Dunlop (Dublin, Moffat).—The Fuel of the Sun: W. Mattieu Williams (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co).
FOREIGN.—Grundzüge der Modernen Chemie: Dr. Eugen Zell, Organische Chemie (Berlin, Hirschwald).—Grundriss der Physik und Meteorologie: Dr. J. Müller (Brunswick, Vieweg).—L'Année Géographique; revue annuelle: M. Vivien de Saint-Martin (Paris, Hachette).—Reden und Abhandlungen über Gegenstände der Himmelskunde: Dr. J. H. von Mädler (Berlin, Oppenheim).—Jahresbericht über die Fortschritte der Chemie: Adolph Strecker, für 1868, 1tes Heft (Giessen, Ricker).—Charles Darwin und Alfred Russel Wallace: Dr. A. B. Meyer (Erlangen, Befold).—Die Stellung des Menschen in der Natur; 2te Lieferung Wer sind wir: Dr. L. Büchner (Leipzig, Thomas).—Zeitschrift der Gesellschaft für Erdkunde zu Berlin, 4ter Band: Prof. W. Koner (Berlin, Reimer).—Studien über die Wanderblöcke und die Diluvialgebilde Russlands: C. von Helmersen, 10 Tafeln (St. Petersburg, Eggers). Through Williams and Norgate.—Cryptogamie Illustrée, ou Histoire des Familles naturelles des Plantes Acotyledonées d'Europe: Casimir Bourneguère (Paris, Baillière).—Gedachtnissrede von Alexander von Humboldt: C. G. Ehrenberg (Berlin, Oppenheim).

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