

author expounds his own views, and argues against the generally accepted theory that underground disturbances of all sorts have their source, not in the upper but in the lowest regions of the earth's crust.—On a case of commensalism between a fish (*Caranx melampygus*) and a medusa (*Crambessa palmipes*), with two illustrations, by M. Godefroy Lunel. In this instance the fish appears as the parasite or guest of the medusa, taking up its abode in one of its cavities, which it enters and leaves at pleasure without apparent injury to the gelatinous substance of the sea-nettle. This circumstance, which has been fully verified, seems to throw a new light on the relations of a species of *Schedophilus* to the medusa, on which it is supposed to feed, and has accordingly, by Prof. Cocco, been named *Schedophilus medusophagus*. One of these is described by Günther in the *Transactions of the London Zoological Society*, October, 1882.—Meteorological observations with tables of temperature and barometric pressure made at the Observatory of Geneva and on the Great Saint Bernard during the month of August.

*Rivista Scientifico-Industriale e Giornale del Naturalista*, July 15 and 31.—On the measurement of altitudes by means of the barometer, by S. Paolo Busin.—Further remarks on a new experiment in electrolysis, by Prof. Eugenio Semmola.—On the comparative electric resistance of fixed and vibrating metal wires, by Prof. Angelo Emo.—An essay on some new applications of the hyperbolic functions to pseudo-spherical surfaces, with a description of Gronau's tables for all kinds of trigonometrical functions of cyclic and hyperbolic sectors, by Prof. Angelo Forti.—On the language of birds, by Prof. Luigi Paolucci.

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES

LONDON

Entomological Society, October 3.—Mr. R. McLachlan, F.R.S., vice-president, in the chair.—Two new members were elected.—Mr. F. P. Pascoe exhibited several interesting British *Hemiptera*, and Mr. T. Wood exhibited a supposed new British species of *Malthodes*.—Mr. W. F. Kirby (on behalf of M. Wailly, who was present as a visitor) exhibited a large box of bred specimens of various *Saturniide*, &c., and some living larvæ of *Telea Polyphemus*, and *Hyperchiria Io*.—Mr. Billups exhibited specimens of the celery fly (*Tephritis onopordinis*), and a small larva of *Meloe* (?).—Dr. D. Sharp communicated some proposed alterations of names in the genus *Batrachus*.—Mr. W. F. Kirby read notes on the Diptera of New Zealand, supplementary to Prof. Hutton's list of 1881.

SYDNEY

Royal Society of New South Wales, July 4.—The Hon. J. Smith, C.M.G., M.D., president, in the chair.—Ten new members were elected and sixty-three donations received. The following papers were read:—By the Rev. J. E. Tenison-Woods, F.G.S., &c, on the Waiianamatta shales.—By R. Etheridge, jun., further remarks on Australian *Strophalosia*; and description of a new species of *Aucella* from the Cretaceous rocks of North-East Australia.—Prof. Liversidge, F.R.S., &c., exhibited specimens of tin ore; he explained that most of the tin worked in this colony was alluvial tin, though occasionally thin veins of crystallised tin had been met with. Those shown, however, were from a vein which had already proved to be of a width of ten feet, and the full width had not yet been reached. The tin, as could be seen, was disseminated through the felspar, and the specimen, which came from the Stannifer Bischoff Mine in New England, closely resembled the ore found in the St. Agnes Mine, in Cornwall, England.

August 1.—The Hon. J. Smith, C.M.G., M.D., president, in the chair.—Three new members were elected, and sixty-seven donations received. The following paper was read:—On plants used by the natives of North Queensland, &c., for food and medicine, by E. Palmer.—Mr. J. Trevor Jones, City Engineer, exhibited and explained the MacGeorge test, an instrument for determining the deviation in diamond drill bores.

PARIS

Academy of Sciences, October 1.—M. Blanchard, president, in the chair.—On the slow upheavals and subsidences of the ground, by M. Faye. In reply to M. Issel of Genoa, the

author revives the old theories of Élie de Beaumont, Cordier, and many others, and argues that the progressive cooling of the earth's crust goes on at a more rapid rate under water than on dry land. There is nothing hypothetical in this view, which might have been deduced from the thermometric soundings taken fifty years ago by the *Venus* in deep seas, and repeated with similar results in recent times. It follows that the solidified crust is much thicker under the oceans than on the continents. Hence also the liquid mass in the interior of the globe is subjected to far greater pressure under the seas than on the main land; and as this excess of pressure is diffused more or less rapidly in every direction, the less dense continental crust must yield to the pressure exercised on it from within. It is thus being everywhere continually upheaved, while the submarine crust, becoming denser and denser, is slowly subsiding.—Note on the recent attempts made by M. Delauney and others to foretell seismic disturbances, by M. Daubrèe. The author concludes that the hitherto collected statistical data are insufficient to justify any theorising for the present on the future recurrence of earthquakes.—Separation of gallium (continued); separation from tantalic acid, by M. Lecoq de Boisbaudran.—Researches on the encephaloid cancer, by M. C. Sappey.—On the destruction and utilisation of the carcasses of animals dying of contagious diseases, and especially of charbon, by M. Aimé Girard.—Observations made at the Observatory of Marseilles, by M. Coggia.—On the calculus of perturbations, by M. A. de Gasparis.—On the approximate evaluation of integers, by M. Stieltjes.—On the interpretation of some phenomena of the solar spectra, by M. L. Thollon.—On the transport and distribution of electric force; experiments made at Grenoble by M. Marcel Deprez, by M. Bou langer.—On the presence of arsenic in certain wines in the absence of all foreign colouring matter, by M. A. Barthélemy.—Quantitative analysis of the chloroform in the blood of an animal treated with this anæsthetic, by MM. Gréchant and Quinquaud.—Researches on parasitic infusoria, with an account of fifteen new species of protozoa, by M. G. Kunstler.—On the marine lamprey, by M. L. Ferry.—On the caterpillar that feeds on the citron blossom, by M. Laugier.—On the position of a foetus found in a *Pontoporia Blainvilliei*, by M. H. P. Gervais.—On a meteor observed at Evreux on the night of September 23, by M. H. Dubus.

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