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THE ANNALS

AND

MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY,

INCLUDING

ZOOLOGY, BOTANY, AND GEOLOGY.

(BEING A CONTINUATION OF THE 'ANNALS' COMBINED WITH LOUDON AND CHARLESWORTH'S 'MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY.')

CONDUCTED BY

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operated upon to take air at the surface of the water, they neither presented in their movements nor in their mode of life any apparent modification, the cutaneous respiration replacing the branchial.— Comptes Rendus, August 5, 1867, pp. 242-246.

Note on my former Communication on a supposed New Species of Planarian Worm.

To the Editors of the Annals and Magazine of Natural History.

GENTLEMEN,—In the October Number of the 'Annals' I drew your attention to what I believed to be an undescribed species of a Rhabdoccel Planarian worm, which I proposed to call Typhloplana nigra. Living as I do in the country, I am in a great measure dependent on my own library for books of reference. Since writing to you, I have procured a copy of Oscar Schmidt's work 'Die Rhabdocoelen Strudelwürmer,' and on Taf. 4. fig. 10 I find an excellent figure of my Planaria, which appears to be not a Typhloplana, but a Mesostomum, and the M. personatum discovered by Schmidt. From what Dr. Schmidt says, it appears that the adult animal is possessed of eyes, which, however, are concealed in the black pigment; young individuals just emerging from the egg have two distinct eye-specks. The chief difference between the genera Mesostomum and Typhloplana is the absence of eyes in the latter. Hence, as I could discover none in the specimens I examined, I referred the creature to the genus Typhloplana. It is, however, clearly identical with the Mesostomum personatum of Schmidt, and I cancel my former conjecture, and add this species of Rhabdoccel planaria to the British fauna. Hab. Reedy pond near Preston.

I remain, Gentlemen, Yours sincerely,

Preston Rectory, Wellington, Salop. Nov. 15, 1867. W. Houghton.

On the Development of Sepiola. By E. MECZNIKOW. (Notice by E. Claparède.)

As M. Mecznikow's memoir is published in Russian, we give a rather detailed notice of it.

Besides the old writings of Bohadsch and Delle Chiaje, we possess on the development of the Cephalopoda an unsatisfactory memoir by M. Van Beneden, and a more important work by M. Kölliker. The latter, although more complete, still leaves some gaps to be filled up.

The ova of the Sepiolæ, investigated at Naples by the author, resemble the eggs of the common fowl in their form, although not in their size (they are only 4 millims. in length); they are contained to the number of fifteen together in a colourless mucilage. Each ovum is furnished only with a single envelope; this chorion does not appear to correspond with the outer membrane of the ova with double envelopes of other Cephalopoda (Sepiæ, Squids), but rather to their inner envelope, which M. Kölliker and others have regarded as the vitelline membrane. This latter denomination seems