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are transferable. M. von Linstow thinks that this opinion is correct if we understand thereby that a state of encystation is always necessary before a *Distomum* can be developed freely in the intestine. If a free *Cercaria* reaches its definitive host, it may continue to live there, but it becomes encysted.—*Archiv für Naturg.* 1873, p. 1; *Bibl. Univ.* August 15, 1873, *Bull. Sci.* p. 328.

Manufactured Glassrope. By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

There have lately been sold at a natural-history sale two or three specimens of the glassrope (*Hyalonema*) from Japan of an extraordinary thickness, made up of a very large number of siliceous fibrous spicules, which at the free end diverge in the most extraordinary manner into a bunch six or seven inches wide. The size, and especially the fibres being separated from each other and twisted in different directions, so that the spiral turns did not match each other, excited my suspicions, which were confirmed by the mass of black pitchy matter with which their base was covered.

The larger specimen was made to appear the most perfect, and was about four inches in circumference about three inches from the base. This part, above the black pitchy substance, is covered with the usual bark for about two or three inches height. When this animal coat or so-called bark was carefully examined, it was found to have no real connexion with the spicules, and to be made up of pieces of bark taken from other specimens and fixed across the bunch of filaments, the grooves between the pieces looking like wrinkles. These specimens are evidently made for sale, probably by the same French taxidermist that made the specimens formerly noticed.

I am sorry to say they found purchasers at prices which the separate glassy filaments of which they are composed would not have fetched. The larger specimens have a usual-sized specimen, partly denuded of its bark, attached by a black pitchy substance to its base.

Note on certain Species of Phasmidæ hitherto referred to the Genus Bacillus. By JAMES WOOD-MASON, of Queen's College, Oxford.

The discovery which I have to announce, viz. that the true males of *Bacillus insignis* and its allies are to be sought in insects of the type of *Lonchodes stilpnus*, Westw., *Lonchodes pseudoporus*, Westw., *Lonchodes Russellii*, Bates, &c., affords another instructive illustration not only of the extreme imperfection of our knowledge of this family of Orthopterous insects, but also of the utter futility of any attempt satisfactorily to distribute the species composing it into genera, until we shall be in possession of the true pairs of many more of the described species.

In 1869 M. Henri de Saussure* proposed, prematurely as it turns out, to divide the genus *Bacillus* into three subgenera—one (*Bacillus*) for the reception of *B. Rossii* and its allies, another (*Ramulus*) for *B. humilis*, Westw., *B. carinulatus*, Sauss., &c., and a third (*Baculum*) for *B. cunicularis*, Westw., *B. ramosus*, Sauss., &c.; and in the first part of my memoir on the *Phasmidæ* †, I provisionally referred to

* Mél. Orth. fasc. ii. pp. 111 & 112.

† Journ. A. S. R. 1873, pt. ii. no. 1.