This article was downloaded by: [New York University]
On: 09 February 2015, At: 02:09
Publisher: Taylor & Francis
Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number:
1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street,
London W1T 3JH, UK

Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 4

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:
<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/tnah10>

On remains of the beaver in New Jersey

Mason C. Weld

Published online: 16 Oct 2009.

To cite this article: Mason C. Weld (1870) On remains of the beaver in New Jersey, *Annals and Magazine of Natural History: Series 4*, 5:25, 70-71, DOI: [10.1080/00222937008696111](https://doi.org/10.1080/00222937008696111)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00222937008696111>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Taylor & Francis makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of all the information (the "Content") contained in the publications on our platform. However, Taylor & Francis, our agents, and our licensors make no representations or warranties whatsoever as to the accuracy, completeness, or suitability for any purpose of the Content. Any opinions and views expressed in this publication are the opinions and views of the authors, and are not the views of or endorsed by Taylor & Francis. The accuracy of the Content should not be relied upon and should be independently verified with primary sources of information. Taylor and Francis shall not be liable for any losses, actions, claims, proceedings, demands, costs, expenses, damages, and other liabilities whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly

or indirectly in connection with, in relation to or arising out of the use of the Content.

This article may be used for research, teaching, and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, redistribution, reselling, loan, sub-licensing, systematic supply, or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden. Terms & Conditions of access and use can be found at <http://www.tandfonline.com/page/terms-and-conditions>

the tentacles turned towards the mouth is not vibratile. It presents from place to place little projecting organs, about 0.025 millim. in length, sharp-pointed, slightly recurved, and endowed with no movement. Besides, this epithelium contains *nematocysts*, whilst there are none in the epithelium of the wide canals. But, on the other hand, their presence approximates the epithelium of the tentacles to the tissue which fills (but does not line, as has been stated) the small nutritive canals (*kleine Saft-Kanäle* of Kölliker). These canals are entirely filled up by a granular substance individualized here and there into cells. These cells are irregular, polyhedral by reciprocal pressure, accumulated in the canals. They are more finely granular and more transparent than those of the vibratile epithelium, and have a small nucleus of a rose-colour, with ill-defined although very distinct contours. We find among these cells (and consequently in the heart of the *cœnenchyma*) *nematocysts* exactly like those of the epithelium of the tentacles.

This peculiarity, in conjunction with the extension of the fundamental substance of the *cœnenchyma* into the polypes, and the extension of the muscles of the polypes into the heart of the *cœnenchyma*, establishes between them such an analogy of structure that it is not possible, in general anatomy, to distinguish them, or to find other than morphological differences between these parts.—*Comptes Rendus*, Nov. 22, 1869, tome lxi. pp. 1097–1099.

Observations on the Nasal Glands of Birds. By M. JOBERT.

The secretory apparatus which occupies the greater part of the frontal region in birds, and which opens into the nasal fossæ, is more complex than has been supposed. It consists of two pairs of glands, closely applied to each other, but organically very distinct, and each having a distinct secretory duct: these two ducts run at first side by side; but in the nasal fossæ their course becomes very different, and their orifices are very wide apart. The author describes the structure of these glands and their anatomical relations.—*Comptes Rendus*, November 15, 1869, tome lxi. p. 1016.

On Remains of the Beaver in New Jersey.

By MASON C. WELD.

I take the occasion of the recent discovery of a very interesting and novel fact to me to communicate with you. It is the finding of a genuine beaver-meadow on the very top and near the brink of the Palisades. The edge of the meadow is about 175 paces from the "steep rocks," which are, I suppose, about 500 feet above the tide-water in the Hudson river, and which rises so abruptly that a stone may in some places be thrown from the top into the water.

Stumps gnawed off by beavers were found by workmen getting out swamp-muck on the land of Mr. Charles Nordhoff, and in the rear of his residence. The trench in which they were found (6 or 7 feet below the surface) is about 10 feet deep; and though it was

in the midst of the severest drought we had had for many years, water soon flowed into it. An eight-foot well on the place has contained a constant supply of water. An excavation made for a fish-pond, within ten rods of the steep rocks, filled up with water to the depth of two or three feet, without receiving a gill from rains or from the surface. Wells, springs, and brooks along the western slope and in the valley have gone dry in great numbers, while here and elsewhere along the top of the Palisades there has been an abundant supply. The beavers must have had permanent water. The size of the meadow is not more than four or five acres; the depth of the peat variable and uncertain; the bottom of the basin, where exposed, consists of a fine sandy hard-pan, with some small boulders and masses of trap; and the trap-rock in place is occasionally denuded.

To appearance there is an abundance of water along this whole range, which cannot be accounted for by the rainfall; and yet it is isolated by miles of intervening hills and valleys from equally high land. Permanent springs, little influenced by the season or by abundance or dearth of rain, are not rare on the western slope of the Palisades, and they are found on some of the highest points; one quite noted one is near Crum's Rock, the highest point.—*Silliman's American Journal*, November 1869.

Note on the Respiration of the Nymphæ of the Libellulæ.

By M. OUSTALET.

The author gives a very detailed description of all the parts of the tracheal system of these animals, and indicates the mode of termination of the aëriferous tubes in the branchial lamellæ with which the walls of the rectum are furnished. In these respiratory appendages the trachææ form a multitude of capillary tubes arranged in loops, a mode of termination which has not previously been noticed.—*Comptes Rendus*, November 15, 1869, tome lxix. p. 1016.

The late Professor MICHAEL SARS, of Christiania.

This eminent zoologist died on the 22nd of October last; and his loss will be much felt by all naturalists who have benefited, as I have done, by his long, laborious, and conscientious investigation of the invertebrate fauna of the Norwegian seas.

He was born on the 30th of August 1805, at Bergen, where his father was a shipowner. After finishing his academical studies at Christiania, and evincing at an early age his predilection for natural science, he entered into priest's orders, and in 1830 became pastor at Kinn, in the diocese of Bergen. Ten years afterwards he had charge of the parish of Manger in the same diocese. As both these parishes were on the sea-coast, Sars had constant opportunities of pursuing his zoological researches. In 1829 he published his first essay, entitled 'Bidrag til Söedyrenes Naturhistorie,' and in 1846 the first part of his celebrated work 'Fauna littoralis Norvegiæ.' In 1854 he was appointed Professor Extraordinarius of Zoology at the University of Christiania, a position