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On the occurrence of Larvæ of Sarcophaga in the human eye and nose

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ticum form of *Athyrium*, and some much-dwarfed *P. Phegopteris*: the *Athyrium* had all the characters of *A. rhæticum* most thoroughly developed, and yet I cannot but think that the same plants were the normal state of *A. Filix-fœmina* two years back; the pinnules of *P. Phegopteris*, even, had a strong inclination to curl. These observations induce me to believe that *A. rhæticum* and *A. Filix-fœmina* are identical, the differences between them depending only on the external conditions under which the plants grow,—the influence of the sun inducing the erect rigid habit in the fronds and pinnæ, and the curling in the pinnules of *A. rhæticum*; and shade and moisture causing the lax, drooping, dilate frond and flat pinnules observable in *A. Filix-fœmina*.

I trouble you with these remarks in the hope that, should you insert them in the 'Annals,' some of your readers may be able to confirm my observations.

I am, Sir, yours very obediently,
S. O. GRAY.

On the occurrence of Larvæ of Sarcophaga in the Human Eye and Nose. By Dr. E. GRUBE.

Several cases of the occurrence of the larvæ of insects in the human eye have been noticed, but the species or even the genus to which they belonged has never yet been ascertained. Thus a communication of Cabrita's, in Von Siebold's Report upon the progress of Helminthology in 1848, mentions that a man who had slept in the open air was attacked by pain in the left eye on the following day. A small red spot was observed on the sclerotic coat, and on rubbing with the upper eyelid, small white worms appeared upon the cornea and the rest of the eyeball; about forty of them were removed. They were of the thickness of a hair, half a line long, and had a small black head. Ormond also observed two cases of inflammation of the eye in which several small larvæ of Dipterous insects made their appearance.

I have to communicate an analogous circumstance observed by Dr. Schnee of Gorigoutzk, in which the specific determination of the insect was possible. Two boys, one four, the other twelve years old, who had slept in the open field during some hot weather, felt, on awaking, a smarting pain in the inner angle of the eye, which gradually increased with violent inflammation, until at last the affected eye lost all power of sight. On examination, Dr. Schnee found in the angle of the eye a mass of maggots, which had destroyed the conjunctiva and the cellular tissue, and penetrated so deeply into the orbit that the hinder end was completely imbedded between the orbit and the eye-ball, although the length of the body is stated at 9 lines. After all the larvæ had been removed (there were about twelve or fifteen of them), the internal muscles of the eye were seen as completely freed of cellular tissue as if they had been prepared.

In drawing the larvæ out with forceps, most of them were so injured that they did not assume the pupa state; some acquired this

form, and of these I have the flies before me. They belong to the genus *Sarcophaga*, and are either the *S. ruralis* or *S. latifrons*, Fallen*.

Dr. Schnee adds, that he has met with similar but smaller larvæ in the nose of a Jewess, who experienced indescribable pain in that part; he was unable, however, to extract them uninjured, so that they did not attain the pupa state.

According to Ruthe†, the larva of *Sarcophaga latifrons* has repeatedly been extracted from ulcers of the ear.—*Archiv für Naturgeschichte*, xix. p. 282.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR JULY 1854.

Chiswick.—July 1. Heavy rain: overcast. 2. Very fine: slight rain. 3. Slight rain: fine. 4. Densely clouded. 5. Showery. 6. Very fine: heavy showers. 7. Overcast: heavy showers. 8. Rain: very fine: clear. 9. Very fine: cloudy. 10. Showery: heavy rain at night. 11. Cloudy. 12. Drizzly: densely overcast. 13. Very fine. 14. Overcast: clear. 15. Densely clouded: very fine. 16. Very fine. 17. Rain: very fine. 18—21. Very fine: air very dry. 22. Quite cloudless. 23. Clear and calm. 24. Sultry: lightning at night. 25. Very hot: lightning at night. 26. Slight haze: cloudy: rain. 27. Easterly haze: rain. 28. Clear and fine. 29. Slight fog: cloudy. 30. Very fine: thunder-storm 2 to 5 P.M. 31. Uniformly overcast: heavy thunder clouds.

Mean temperature of the month	61°·59
Mean temperature of July 1853	61·94
Mean temperature of July for the last twenty-eight years...	63·17
Average amount of rain in July	2·42 inches.

Boston.—July 1. Cloudy: rain A.M. 2. Cloudy. 3. Cloudy: rain P.M. 4. Fine: rain P.M. 5. Fine. 6, 7. Cloudy. 8. Cloudy: rain A.M. 9. Cloudy. 10. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 11. Cloudy. 12. Rain A.M. and P.M. 13. Cloudy. 14, 15. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 16. Fine. 17. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M. 18. Cloudy: rain A.M. 19, 20. Cloudy. 21. Fine: thermometer 84° 5 P.M. 22—24. Fine. 25—29. Cloudy. 30. Fine. 31. Cloudy: rain A.M. and P.M.

Sandwich Manse, Orkney.—July 1. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 2. Cloudy A.M.: showers P.M. 3. Cloudy A.M.: rain P.M. 4. Rain A.M.: fog P.M. 5. Cloudy A.M.: hazy P.M. 6. Bright A.M.: rain P.M. 7. Clear A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 8. Bright, fine A.M.: cloudy P.M. 9. Drizzle A.M.: cloudy P.M. 10. Bright A.M.: cloudy P.M. 11. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 12. Drizzle A.M. and P.M. 13. Rain A.M.: damp P.M. 14. Damp A.M. and P.M. 15. Rain A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 16. Cloudy A.M.: cloudy, fine P.M. 17. Damp A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 18. Clear, fine A.M.: fine, fog P.M. 19. Hazy A.M.: cloudy P.M. 20, 21. Clear, fine A.M. and P.M. 22. Showers A.M.: clear P.M. 23, 24. Cloudy A.M. and P.M. 25. Drizzle A.M.: cloudy P.M. 26. Showers A.M.: clear, fine P.M. 27. Clear A.M.: cloudy, fine P.M. 28. Clear, fine A.M. and P.M. 29. Clear, fine A.M.: cloudy, fine P.M. 30. Cloudy A.M.: fog P.M. 31. Fog A.M. and P.M.

Mean temperature of July for twenty-seven previous years .	55°·08
Mean temperature of this month	55·25
Mean temperature of July 1853	58·15
Average quantity of rain in July for fourteen previous years .	2·40 inches.

* Dr. Grube states that he is unable to determine to which of these species his specimens belong, but gives a detailed description of them, with some critical remarks on the descriptions of other authors.

† Troschel and Ruthe, 'Handb. der Zoologie.'