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PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

52ND MEETING OF GERMAN NATURALISTS AND PHYSICIANS IN BADEN-BADEN.

We find in the *Entomologische Nachrichten* for 1 April 1880, Jahrg. 6, p. 65-79, a notice of the meeting entitled above, by M. von Hopffgarten, of Mülverstedt. The Entomological section of this meeting, now four years old, is declared to be the centre of German entomological life. After some irrelevant matter, and a list of the eighteen persons present, a list is given of the communications presented. Dr. von Heyden, of Frankfort, mentioned that Tournier had found a species of *Laccobius*, which he named *thermarius*, in a hot spring, of temperature $47\frac{1}{2}$ - 49° C., in Baden, Switzerland. Mr. Köppen, of St. Petersburg, called attention to a bibliography of the zoology of Russia which he had published in German. Baron von Osten-Sacken, now of Heidelberg, spoke of "Certain remarkable cases of the geographical distribution of *tipulidae*," an abstract of which communication is given as follows:—

Five species of the genus *Ptychopterina* are known; one is found in the Atlantic states of North America, one in California, one in

Chili, one in New Zealand and one in amber. The genus *Elephantomyia* is found in the Atlantic states of North America, in California, and in amber. The genus *Prochobola* is known from northern and middle Europe, North America, New Zealand, Van Dieman's Land and South Australia. Several species of the group *anisomerina* with enormously long antennae in the males occur in the Atlantic states of North America and similar species are still found in amber. The rather frequent contact of the [eastern] North American fauna with that of the amber, on the one hand, and that of California, Chili and Australia, on the other hand, is especially worthy of note, as is also the circumstance that in certain genera of diptera sporadic occurrence is more frequent than it is in the other orders of insects. Considerable discussion followed this communication, involving the question of the geographical distribution of cave-insects.

Several ingenious pieces of collecting apparatus were exhibited, and methods of capture were discussed. Five sessions were held.

Baron von Osten-Sacken proposed that a loan-library should be formed, for the benefit of entomologists, from which any one might obtain books without fee. He offered, in case such a library were established, to present to it about 300 works treating of diptera, mostly separates. Dr. Noll, of Frankfort, said that such a library, containing works on malacozoology, had already been established at Frankfort-on-Main, and that it would be a good plan to choose that city for the *locale* of this new library. This, together with other propositions that were brought forward at the final session, was referred to the meeting to be held in 1880.

A notice is given further of collections examined and excursions made, and the author concludes with an expression of exultation that the entomologists felt strong enough to resist the attempt of the zoologists to swallow their section.

It was determined to hold the next meeting 18-24 Sept. 1880, in Danzig. B: P. M.



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