

All depths of the lake have furnished Gammaridæ. The greatest depth to which the author has hitherto carried his dredgings, namely 1373 metres, proved to be as well peopled as the littoral zone, although the number of species was less than at higher levels. However, this comparative poverty seems to be attributable to the fact that the exploration of great depths is attended with great difficulties. Dr. Dybowsky has no doubt that more regular investigations carried on between 500 and 1300 metres would be recompensed by the discovery of new species.

Most of the Gammaridæ of Lake Baikal which live at small depths are vividly coloured; but with the increase of depth the coloration gradually diminishes, and the species living below 700 metres are more or less whitish in tint. Some varieties, coming from greater depths than those inhabited by the specific type, are distinguished by the paleness of their bodies and eyes, and also, in some cases, by the more elongated and slender form of their locomotive appendages.—*Horæ Soc. Ent. Ross. Bd. x. Supplement; Bibl. Univ., Bull. Sci.* 1874, p. 372.

On the Mode in which Amœba swallows its Food.

By Prof. J. LEIDY.

The author remarked that he had supposed that *Amœba* swallows food by this becoming adherent to the body and then enveloped, much as insects become caught and involved in syrup or other viscid substances. He had repeatedly observed a large *Amœba*, which he supposes to be *A. princeps*, creep into the interstices of a mass of mud and appear on the other side without a particle adherent. On one occasion he had accidentally noticed an *Amœba* with an active flagellate infusorium, a *Urocentrum*, included between two of its finger-like pseudopods. It so happened that the ends of these were in contact with a confervous filament; and the glasses above and below, between which the *Amœba* was examined, effectually prevented the *Urocentrum* from escaping. The condition of imprisonment of the latter was so peculiar that he was led to watch it. The ends of the two pseudopods of the *Amœba* gradually approached, came into contact, and then actually became fused—a thing which he had never before observed with the pseudopods of an *Amœba*. The *Urocentrum* continued to move actively back and forth, endeavouring to escape. At the next moment a delicate film of the ectosarc proceeded from the body of the *Amœba*, above and below, and gradually extended outwardly so as to convert the circle of the pseudopods into a complete sac, enclosing the *Urocentrum*. Another of these creatures was noticed within the *Amœba*, which appeared to have been enclosed in the same manner.

This observation would make it appear that the food of the *Amœba* ordinarily does not simply adhere to the body, and then sink into its substance, but rather, after becoming adherent to or covered by the pseudopods or body, is then enclosed by the active extension of a film of ectosarc around it.—*Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad.* p. 143.



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