

from the branchia at the base, to be continued by the auricle of the heart.—*Comptes Rendus*, November 12, 1883, p. 1076.

*Injury sustained by the Eye of a Trilobite at the Time of the Moulting of the Shell.* By CHARLES D. WALCOTT.

Mr. William P. Rust, of Trenton Falls, N. Y., called my attention some time since to the eyes of a small but very perfect specimen of *Illænus crassicauda*, from the Trenton Limestone, that he has in his beautiful collection of Trenton fossils.

The left eye is perfect: the visual surface is clearly defined, and in the sunlight almost translucent between the darker base and the curve of the facial suture above. The right eye at first sight appears to have been broken in working away the matrix; but a close examination shows, as Mr. Rust expressed it, that the eye had been put out while the animal was living. This is shown by the peculiar growth of the shell about the aperture formerly occupied by the visual surface of the eye. The margins are turned in, rounded, and contracted, and the size of the palpebral lobe materially lessened. An injury to the visual surface would scarcely produce this effect if the shell was hard. If slightly injured before the moulting of the shell the separation would be imperfect and the visual surface carried away with the old shell would leave a cavity around which the new shell would form, as in the eye before us. If injured before the new shell had hardened, that effect might be produced; but the probabilities are, that the loss of the visual surface occurred at the time of the moulting of the old shell.

Among the thousands of trilobites that have passed through my hands in which the eyes were preserved I have never noticed any distortion or injury that occurred during the life of the animal. In a few instances the shell of the pygidium of *Asaphus platycephalus* has shown evidence of local fracture that appears to have occurred during the life of the animal, but these were very unsatisfactory. To Mr. Rust's skill in working out the specimen described, and also in detecting the character of the injured eye, we are indebted for some positive information of an injury sustained during the moulting of the shell of a trilobite.—*Amer. Journ. Science*, Oct. 1883, p. 302.

*The Pelagic and Deep Faunas of the two Lakes of Savoy (the Lac du Bourget and Lac d'Annecy).* By Dr. O. E. IMHOF.

The Lac du Bourget is 17 kilom. long and about 5 kilom. broad, and its depth is stated at 80–100 metres. The Lac d'Annecy measures 14 kilom. in length, and its greatest breadth is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  kilom.; its greatest depth is estimated at 62 metres.

In the Lac du Bourget on the 5th October the author obtained at 20 metres *Daphnella brachyura*, Liev., *Leptodora hyalina*, Lillj., a



Walcott, Charles D. 1884. "Injury sustained by the eye of a trilobite at the time of the moulting of the shell." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 13, 69–69.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00222938409459197>.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/88062>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.1080/00222938409459197>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/64927>

#### **Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

#### **Sponsored by**

Smithsonian

#### **Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.