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flat track, of a sieve-like appearance, beneath which occur a number of long, polygonal processes, apparently fused, but in reality separate, which are in connection basally with a stout nerve-filament. Rather by a process of exhaustion than from direct evidence as to their function, Dahl affirms that this organ is olfactory in nature. It is universally found in the Arachnida, though in different stages of development, being most fully developed in Pachygnatha.—*Journ. Roy. Microscopical Society, Dec.*

IGNIVOROUS ANT.—G. Rafin described a species of ant which he has observed in the Island of St. Thomas, and which he proposes to call *Formica ignivora*. A large fire of wood having been kindled at a certain distance from the ant-hill, he is able to affirm that the ants precipitated themselves into it by thousands, until it was completely extinguished.—*Journ. Roy. Microscopical Society, Dec., 1882.*

ENTOMOLOGICAL NOTES.—In a paper on the larvæ and larval cases of some Australian Aphrophoridae, F. Ratte describes those of a species probably of *Ptyelus*, which are true shells, containing at least three-fourths of carbonate of lime, and resembling in shape some fossil and recent serpulæ, some being conical, others serpuliform or helicoidal. The conical shells are fixed on the branches of some species of *Eucalyptus*, the mouth turned upwards, the larva being placed in it with the head downwards.—In his notes on the flight of insects, Dr. v. Lendenfeld contests the views of the French physiologists that the position and movements of the wings of insects are merely the results of the mechanical influence of the resisting air, and gives instances where muscular contraction had been clearly proved.—Dr. S. W. Williston begins, in the Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society for February, a series of papers on the classification of North American Diptera. The first paper is extracted from a monograph of the North American Syrphidae, now ready for the press, and which gives the results of a careful study of nearly 275 species of this family.—The committee on a union of *Papilio* with the *Bulletin* have reported in favor of it, and recommend that a monthly journal be issued under the name of *Entomologica Americana*, at \$2 a year.—An entomological society has been established at Newark, N. J.—In an examination of over 1500 specimens, Mr. C. H. T. Townsend found 115.3 males to every 100 females (*Can. Ent.*, Dec, 1884).—Mr. W. H. Edwards recounts, in the *Canadian Entomologist* for December, further experiments upon the effects of cold applied to chrysalids of butterflies.—*Nature* for Jan. 29, gives good figures and descriptions of the two fossil scorpions from the Silurian of Sweden and Scotland lately discovered.—A writer in the same number claims that the leaf-eating ant has something to do with the barrenness of the pampas of the La Plata, as they defoliate *Eucalyptus* plantations, cutting off the first leaves.