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6. *Level of the Caspian and Dead Seas.*—The Caspian Sea, according to A. Erman in 1836, is 84 meters (266 feet) below the level of the Black Sea. The Scientific Commission from the Russian government in 1837, found it 101·2 feet (English). M. H. de Hell has concluded from a barometric leveling, that the difference of level between the Caspian and Sea of Azof, is only 18·304 meters. From the geodesic results of Sabler and Sowitsch, M. Hell deduced 33·7 meters, and afterwards 27, as the difference of level. From the same observations, Humboldt obtained 81·4 feet (English).

M. Cailler (1839) deduced from the observations of Bertou (1837 and 1839), Moore and Beet (1837), and Schubert (1837), as a mean, that the Dead Sea is depressed 185 meters below the Mediterranean. Bertou placed it at 419·6 meters. David Wilkie (in 1842) found the depression 365 meters; Lymonds, 427 meters; Rusegger (1841) 434 meters. Delcros (1843) derives from all the observations, that 426·3 meters is the amount of depression. Moore and Beck sounded 300 fathoms in the Dead Sea without finding bottom.—*D'Archiac Hist. Geol.*

7. *Cremastochilus in Ant Nests*; by S. S. HALDEMAN.—Our ant nests are similar to those of Europe, in harboring various insects. Among these are Aphis, Coccus, Batrisus, Hister, Hetærius, and the singular genus of Lamellicornia mentioned above. About the end of April, I found beneath a flat stone, in a cavity occupied by a large flavous species of ant, a living *Cremastochilus variolosus*, but laid no stress upon the occurrence, as I supposed it to be accidental. On the 16th of May, I took three individuals of *C. Harrisii* together, under similar circumstances, and kept them alive for twelve days. On the 25th of May, I found a second individual of *C. variolosus*, in an ant's nest. The locality is a southern hill slope covered with *Castanea*, *Pinus mitis*, *Acer*, *Carya*, and *Kalmia*, the soil siliceous. The genus is extremely rare; although tolerably successful in collecting, and my residence is near the locality, these are the first living individuals I have seen. In confinement they burrow beneath the earth in which they are placed, the head, from its peculiar form, being well adapted for this purpose.

The genus *Chelifer* is also found in ant nests, where it is probably attracted by the immature *Thysanura* which occur there; but I recently found nine individuals apparently parasitic, lodged near the extremity of the abdomen, beneath the wings and elytra of a living *Alaus oculatus*, the early stages of which are passed in ash trees.

8. *Meteor*; by D. D. PHARES, A.M. (from a letter dated Whitesville, Miss., May 8, 1848.)—On the night (Saturday) of the 15th ultimo, a brilliant meteor was seen to start a little west of north, and more towards the east, disappearing with a loud noise like that of a six pounder. It was described by those who saw it as appearing several inches in diameter, with a train several feet long. Persons in every part of this county saw it and heard the explosion. It was so bright as to cause opaque objects to cast a shadow even in the moonshine. I can hear of no part of the meteor being found.

9. *Common Salt.*—The amount of common salt in all the oceans, is estimated by Schafhæutl at 3,051,342 cubic geographical miles. This would be about five times more than the mass of the Alps, and only one-third less than that of the Himalaya. The sulphate of soda