

tain. The paper concluded with a classification of the conodonts from the above deposits.—*On Annelid Jaws from the Cambro-Silurian, Silurian and Devonian formations in Canada, and from the Lower Carboniferous in Scotland*, by G. Jennings Hinde, F.G.S. After referring to the very few recorded instances of the discovery of any portions of the organisms of errant annelids as distinct from their trails and impression in the rocks, the author noticed the characters of the strata, principally shallow-water deposits in which the annelid jaws described by him are imbedded. A description was given of the principal varieties of form and of the structure of the jaws. They were classified from their resemblance to existing forms under seven genera, five of which are included in the family Eunicea, one in the family Lycoridea, and one among the Glycerea. The author enumerated fifty-five different forms, the greater proportion of which are from the Cincinnati group.—*Nature*.

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CONVOLUTA SCHULTZII.—An important line of demarcation between the vegetable and animal world has been removed by recent investigation. Plants assimilate carbonic acid, give off oxygen, and form starch. By experiments on a species of Planaria, a flat worm, described as *Convoluta Schultzii*, Mr. P. Geddes has demonstrated that that animal disengages oxygen in large quantity, decomposes carbonic acid, and produces starch. This worm abounds in the shallow water on the margin of the sea, and on exposure to sunlight pours forth a stream of bubbles containing, as proved by analysis, from forty-five to fifty-five per cent. of oxygen. And on subjecting a number of Planaria to chemical treatment, a quantity of ordinary vegetable starch was obtained. Pointing out the significance of these facts in the *Proceedings* of the Royal Society, Mr. Geddes says: 'As the *Drosera* and *Dionaea* [two species of well-known vegetable Fly-traps], which have attracted so much attention of late years, have received the striking name of Carnivorous Plants, these Planarians may not unfairly be called Vegetating Animals, for the one case is the precise reciprocal of the other. Not only does the *Dionaea* imitate the carnivorous animal, and the *Convoluta* the ordinary green plant, but each tends to lose its own normal character.'—*Chambers's Journal*.