

berries and in some countries so beautiful are they that they are strung on wire and used in ornamental work of various kinds. The so-called Dead Sea apple is nothing more than a gall, produced by *Cynips insano*, and here are some that in California were called flea seeds. The person that sent them to me insisted that there was something supernatural about them. He brought them in a wooden box padded with cotton, to prevent them, he said, from being dashed to pieces, as they leaped about in the most astonishing manner. Some of them were what are called 'devil beans'. They are minute seeds, triangular in shape, and when placed upon the table they commenced to roll about and leap into the air in the most remarkable way. I cut one open, however, and soon showed the skeptic the motive power, which was a fat, light colored lepidopterous larva that when a moth, is known as *Carpocapsa dehaiana*. It was the struggles of this grub that made the seed jump.

"The most curious seeds were those of the tree known as Brincador. They are about as large as those of the mustard, and when they fall from the tree they keep up a continual hopping upon the ground, so that you would assuredly think that innumerable sand-hoppers were jumping about. But the secret is that each little seed contains the larva of a small dark-hued *Cynips salatorius*. I have observed this myself, and the noise of the leaping seeds sounds like the pattering of rain upon the leaves, and they can hop a distance of several inches.

"The subject of galls is an important one aside from the fact that ink is obtained from them, as they are used as medicine in various ways. In India the Somali woman tattoo themselves with gall juice, and the blaster, dyor, etc., if they only knew it, are generally indebted to the material labors of the most insignificant insects. The importance of the gall business can be seen from this list, and these all go to the ink trade, and it only gives those that are imported into England yearly: Germany sends 100 tons, valued at \$75,000; Turkey about 320 tons, valued at \$200,000; Egypt, 08 tons; China, 70, Bombay, 100. In China thousands of persons get a living out of the gall business. They are known as woepei tsze and are produced by an aphid on an anacardiaceous tree. The galls are generally collected before winter, just previous to the first frost, and are generally submitted to steam, to kill the inclosed insect, and dried and then shipped by the pound or hundred weight."—*Philadelphia Times*.