

out of spawn lying at the bottom. Many of the small fry were seen dead, held fast in the firm bladder-jaws of the murderous plant. Professor Moseley being interested in this wonderful discovery of a fish-eating weed, secured another *Utricularia* and put it into a separate vessel, with fresh spawn and young fry of roach. In about six hours more than a dozen of the fish were caught in the wee greengins. In most cases the fish were caught by the head, and when this is so the snout is pushed into the bladder as far as it will go, till it touches the opposite wall, leaving the tail of the poor struggling thing half free outside. Sometimes, however, the bladders catch the young roach by the tail, a fact which proves the truth of Mrs. Treat's view that the valve actually snaps at the prey, instead of merely allowing it to enter it passively. In one of Professor Moseley's specimens; a fish was caught by the yelkbag, which fry carry in their early stages attached to their stomach: and in another instance two bladders had got hold of the same fish, one trapping it by the head and the other by the tail.

Seen under the microscope the semitransparent green traps, with the tiny silvery bodies of the dead fish half protruding from them, form very striking beautiful objects. The big black eyes of the fish show out clearly by the transmitted light shown through the green wall of the cell that has caught them. Preserved in spirits, the specimens are less interesting, because then the bladder loses its green color, and the force of the contrast is considerably weakened. After the fish have been for some time trapped they assume a slimy deliquescent appearance, and are rapidly absorbed by the glandular processes. As these processes project obliquely backward, Professor Moseley thinks it probable that they help to catch the fish and prevent them from escaping, in somewhat the same manner as the barbs of a hook or arrow or as the backward pointing twigs of an eel-buck would do. Each fresh struggle and plunge must make the fish get deeper and deeper entangled in the trap, because the processes, catching in his gill or gill slits, prevent him from moving backward, and compel him to move forward only.

One word as to the evolutionary history of this singular water-weed. It is a close relation of the beautiful pale green butterwort,