

An Aleyonelloid form of *Plumatella*, species not known, has been discovered growing on submerged branches in the Cemetery Pond, Pictou. It is an interesting form of Bryozoan life.

A very large specimen of the Brown Pelican has been shot at Cape John, Pictou Co., N. S.; it has been purchased and mounted for the Pictou Academy Museum. Between 20 and 30 birds and mammals have already this season been mounted for this institution.

Geology

M. M. Renauit and Zeiller have described a number of mosses from the Carboniferous strata of Commeny, France. The mosses previously found have been few, and of the Tertiary Epoch.

The island of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, has been thoroughly explored by members of the Geological Survey of the Dominion of Canada, and excellent series of geological maps of the same have been published.

Sir Wm. Dawson in a memoir read before the Royal Society of Canada in May last refers to a remarkable Jurassic-Cretaceous flora recently discovered by Dr. G. M. Dawson in the Rocky Mountains, and to intermediate groups of plants between this and the Middle Cretaceous.

The dragon flies of the Middle Devonian of New Brunswick were thought to be the oldest land animals until Mr. Peach of Scotland showed that chilognathous myriapods were far from uncommon in the lower Old Red Sandstone of Forfershire. There is but a short step from this to the Silurian and M. Brogniart has found in the Silurian limestone of Calvados a fossil Blatta.

Art and Manufacture

The chimney of a manufactory in Breslau, about fifty feet high, is made of pressed paper, a substance, it is remarked, which has almost perfect powers of resistance to fires.

In Jaffa, Palestine, there are 500 gardens, of which 150 are ranked first class, all the gardens together containing 800,000 trees. These are placed 15 feet apart, are watered every week in summer, at a cost of one fifth the value of the crop in gardens of the first class.

ALASKA.

[Lieut. Schwatka.]

The Yukon river in Alaska is so long that if its source were at Salt Lake it might empty into New York Bay, and its mouth is so wide that New York would be on one side and Philadelphia on the other. Alaska has a coast line greater than that of all the rest of the United States, adding together the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific seaboard.