

Scientific.

THE SEVENTEEN YEAR LOOUSTS.

This is the year for the appearance of the famous Seventeen Year locusts in this district and immense numbers have already emerged from their underground transformation place.

There is no fact better established than that it occurs only, in general, every seventeen years, and hence its popular name; its scientific cognomen is Cicada septendecim.

The development of this species of Cicada has been carefully observed through all its various stages, and it requires that period of time to undergo its transformation, and thus requires a longer time to come to maturity, than any other insect known.

The head is furnished with a snout, which forms a sheath for three small hairs, which are very fine and flexible, by means of which the insect, both in the chrysalis, and perfect state, takes up fluid nutritious matter from the surface of vegetable substances, and from the soil or earth.

The ovipositor, the instrument with which the female deposits her eggs, and with which she perforates the young limbs and twigs of trees and shrubs, and sometimes even hard wood, is singularly constructed.

It is about the size of a pin, flattened and somewhat spear-shaped at the point. It is attached to the under side of the body, and when not in use, is nicely concealed in a deep fissure, that extends to the extremity of the body.

The females select the green living limbs of trees and shrubs, of about the size of their own bodies. They take every kind of trees except the pine and other terebinthinate species, and it matters not how hard the wood.

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It lives during the remainder of the warm season in the vegetable soil. On the approach of the cold season it forms around itself a cell, by cementing particles of earth together, and in this cell it remains for another season, and thus it continues from year to year.

of the soil, sometimes as deep as two, or even four feet. It remains in this cell until the time has come for it to emerge to the surface, and finally comes forth in the chrysalis form, which is soon hardened by the atmosphere.

HOW LONG WE MIGHT LIVE.

Professor Faraday adopts Flourin's physiological theory that the natural age of a man is one hundred years. The duration of the life he believes to be measured by the time of growth.

THE AMERICAN FACE.

Dr. Bellows writes the Liberal Opinion, from Florence, as follows: "Mr. Powers, the sculptor, says the American face is distinguished from the English by the little distance between the brows and the eyes, the openness of the nostrils, and the thinness of the visage."

AN ANCIENT STATUE EXHUMED.

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THE POISONOUS FLY OF MEXICO.

A recent number of the Ledger gave an account of a certain fly in Costa Rica and South America, which lays its eggs in the nostrils of human kind while asleep.

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