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"BIOLOGY NOTES.

By Professor Osler, M.D., McGill College.

- I. On a remarkable vital phenomenon observed at Lake
Memphremagog.

The Nostoc foliaceum also occurs there; it has a membranous somewhat folded frond, usually growing erect on damp clay.

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II. On the occurrence of Ophrydium versatile.

This infusorian is met with in many of our lakes, particularly those to the north of the St. Lawrence. Its macroscopic characters are plant-like as it forms irregular greenish masses of a gelatinous consistence and though usually somewhat flattened, they may occur as beautiful globular bodies of a light green colour. At Lac a l'eau Claire, in the property of Mr. G. W. Stephens, I found one mass the size of a large apple. On examination the gelatinous substance is seen to be colorless but imbedded in its cortex are numerous greenish infusoria with very extensible spindle-shaped bodies which are anchored by a delicate terminal filament in the matrix. When extended the body measures about one-hundredth of an inch, when contracted it forms an elongated oval. The anterior extremity is blunt and fringed with cilia; a narrow elongated gullet can be seen but the body cavity appears protoplasmic and contains chlorophyl grains and nuclei. The naked eye appearances of this remind one of the Nostoc or of the

68 [unclear] Howard [unclear] Palmer
Howard's on [unclear] 1881, vi, 350, [unclear] the [unclear]

gelatinous masses of the Palmellaceæ. It occurs extensively throughout Canada. I have found it in Burlington Bay, the Humber ponds near Toronto, the marshes about Lakes Simcoe, Couchiching and Muskoka. Nowhere have I met with it in such profusion as in Lac a l'eau Claire. In Lake Roberta, near Grenville, I found some very large masses.

III. On the distribution of Pectinatella magnifica in Canada.

I stated in the brief notes in Canadian Fresh-water Polyzoa which I read at one of the meetings of the Society last year, that the large Polyzoan above named had not been met with in Lower Canada. Since then I have found it in beautiful masses in Fitch Bay, Lake Memphremagog, and Dr. Harrington has obtained several fine specimens in the North river, near St. Andrews. In Ontario it has been found in Rice Lake, in the Humber ponds, and in greatest profusion in the Desjardins canal and the contiguous marshes. It is probably widely distributed in quiet ponds and swamps throughout the country, never in the open lake or in very clear water.

(To be continued)"

~~Handwritten notes and scribbles, including references to "T. Wesleyhulls", "Martin", "Students", "Schultze's granular masses", "Vaggregatus", "microscopy", and "may be".~~

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