

canal; and in this matrix eleven small eels that had life enough to move about, although the mother was dead some hours. They had not yet arrived at maturity. The dorsal fin was visible, and so were the head and other parts, all of which appeared to be beneath a thin film. The head, one would say, was not perfect, although the shape was distinguishable. In January, 1892, I caught two of these female eels. The time was later in the month than when I caught the one the year previous, and the young ones were more perfect. These females were dead long before the other eels showed any distress from want of their native element.

What I have discovered I arrange as follows: *First*, that eels are night fish—*i.e.*, that they travel and feed at night. *Second*, that they go to the tidal waters (when practicable) to deposit their young. *Third*, that they bring forth their young alive in the tidal waters. *Fourth*, that they go up the rivers again, and so do their young ones.

Since I wrote the foregoing I have had a conversation with Mr. Henry Redwood, of Spring Creek, a good and keen observer of nature. He said that he had frequently observed the matrix that I have described, and found in it the young eels as I found them.

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ART. XXIII.—On a New Zealand Variety of *Floscularia coronetta*, Cubitt.

By Archdeacon STOCK, B.A.

Communicated by W. M. Maskell.

Plate X.

[Read before the Wellington Philosophical Society, 3rd August, 1892.]

THE animalcule known as *Floscularia coronetta* is rare in England. It is worth recording that a *Floscularia* almost identical with the English form was found by me in water at the back of the Hutt Parsonage. The drawing (Plate X.) accurately represents the New Zealand form. The only differences between this and the English rotiferon is that the arms in my specimens are longer than those in Hudson's and Gosse's drawings, and the knob at the end of the arms is not circular, as in their drawings, but oval. The animal is rare here, as well as in England.