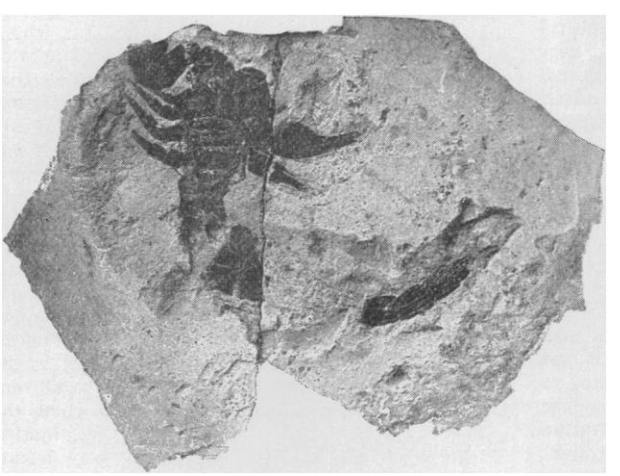
This interesting and instructive case will doubtless inaugurate a new era in medical practice; for, although this particular individual has succumbed to measures adopted to avert his otherwise certain death, the experience thereby gained is sufficient to encourage further efforts in a similar direction, which may prove beneficial to others. In the Marshall Hall oration of last year, Professor Ferrier remarked, "There are already signs that we are within measurable distance of the successful treatment, by surgery, of some of the most distressing and otherwise hopeless forms of intercranial disease, which will vie with the splendid achievements of abdominal surgery." He further added, reflecting on the success which had attended brain operations on animals, "I can but believe that similar results are capable of being achieved on man himself." That distinguished physiologist can but feel gratified that his prophetic words have been partially realized.

DISCOVERY OF SILURIAN INSECTS.

SOME weeks since, we noticed the discovery by Lindström of a Silurian scorpion, Palaeophoneus nuncius, — the earliest-known air-breathing animal. To-day we reproduce in natural size a photograph of it received from Dr. Lindström. How quickly one discovery leads to another, is evinced by the curious fact that we now learn of the discovery by Dr. Hunter of another scorpion of the same genus in the Ludlow beds of Scotland, which are also referred to



PALAEOPHONEUS NUNCIUS.

the upper Silurian. This second specimen, fortunately, is preserved so as to show the stigmata and 'comb' of the ventral surface, and will therefore offer more evidence as to its exact zoölogical position. It is in the hands of Mr. Peach of the geological survey, who described the carboniferous scorpions of Scotland with such care. Even this curious discovery is eclipsed by the announcement, at the last meeting of the French academy in 1884, of the finding of an insect's wing in the middle Silurian of Calvados, which Mr. Charles Brongniart, who announces the discovery, refers to a cockroach. It presents certain peculiarities, and among others an unusually long and straight anal vein. It is named Palaeoblattina Douvillei, after its discoverer. The oldest-known winged insects, up to this time, had been the Devonian insects of New Brunswick.

METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

THE Colorado meteorological association, recently formed, proposes to establish stations for observation at twenty or more points in Colorado, and has applied to the legislature for assistance.

In co-operation with the chief signal-officer, U.S. army, arrangements have been completed with the Old colony railroad, whereby 'cold-wave' flags — white, with a black square in the centre — will be displayed at eleven of the most important stations on the road, on receipt of telegraphic orders from Washington. The stations are Boston, Quincy, South Braintree, Brockton, Middleborough, Taunton, Somerset, Fall River, Newport, New Bedford, and Plymouth. An extension of this arrangement is in contemplation, so as to bring the daily weather forecasts issued by the signal-office into even more general notice than they gain by publication in the daily papers. Postmasters or town authorities in New England, desirous of undertaking the display of daily weather signals, are requested to address Mr. W. M. Davis, Cambridge, Mass.

Investigations upon the subject of ozone and the relation of its presence or absence to epidemic diseases are now carried on in various sections of the country. If sufficient encouragement is given, it is probable that observations will be undertaken by the New-England meteorological society, under the supervision of Dr. E. U. Jones of Taunton, Mass. Physicians and others who would be willing to engage in these observations are requested to address Dr. Jones. The cost will be about three dollars annually for each observer.

On the morning of Dec. 27, when the wind was everywhere light, the temperature at the summit of Mount Washington was +16°, while at stations at lower levels, north of the Massachusetts boundary, the temperatures ranged from —10° to —24°. A more striking instance of the disturbance of the usual law of decrease of temperature with increase of altitude is rarely noted.

In his 'Meteorological summary' for the year 1884, Prof. F. H. Snow states that the most notable features of the year 1884, in Kansas, were the low mean temperatures of the spring, summer, and win-