

Pittsburg^{Pa} Pa June 9th / 69

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Prof. O. C. Mearns

Yale Coll
New Haven Conn.

Dear Sir, I have just read
your article in *Sill Jour*, Nov
1868. I have been much in-
terested formerly in *Sinedon*
lichenoides hundreds of which
may be caught at favorable
times in the Mississippi
River at - Downport - Iowa.
Their great abundance in the
river, and the rare appearance
of anything like *Solomonides*
in the cloud was presumptive
evidence of the *Sinedon* being
fully developed form.

Excuse pencil. D. Torrey

P.S. I will add that -
I refer to a location on the
rapids 3 miles above the city of D. -
In the early winter when the
first interim cold freezes the river
over ^{about} the stop of water is fully 1 foot
lower than in the dryer of summer
seasons,
On such occasions I have hunted
Amios using a hoe to lift them
into my basket, and to turn the
few stone scattered on the rocky
bed of the river. Under these
stone would be found very
many Sincow's. At other seasons
they are often caught by fishermen
they biting the hooks like fish,
and were locally known as water
dogs,

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The location is noted as a fishing
ground, - query, do the fish
catch the Sincow's when they are
transforming, - sucking air at the
surface of the water, - hence no notice-
able number of Salamanders ever seen.