

formis, which he had found at Columbus, Ohio, were somewhat different from those exhibited by Mr. Southwick, *i. e.*, more nearly cylindrical.

Mr. Riley stated that he knew of no other species of Thyridopteryx similar to *ephemeraformis*, although this species differed much as to the character of their cases, especially those upon pine, when compared with other trees.

Mr. Kellicott stated that the larvæ of *Pterophora melsheimeri* which he had noticed at Columbus did not have the prominent paddle-shaped appendages at the side of the head as always described; that the case was a more perfect structure than that figured by Harris; and that the moth's wings were more deeply sinuate, with the edges trimmed with white.

The Club then adjourned.

FRIDAY, August 19, 1892.

The Club met at 9.45, fourteen members present. The minutes of the morning meeting of the previous day were read, and after amendment, approved.

Mr. Lintner occupied the chair while Mr. Schwarz read a paper upon the Males of *Xyleborus*.

Mr. Schwarz stated that there was no relative proportion of numbers of the females to the number of males. In reply to a question by Mr. Lintner, Mr. Schwarz stated that the white lining found in the borings of *dispar* and other species was supposed to be a fungus, but it was not known definitely.

Mr. Smith thought it could be easily determined if it was a fungus by microscopical examination.

Mr. Osborn followed with Notes on the Species of *Acanthia*.

NOTE ON THE SPECIES OF ACANTHIA.

BY HERBERT OSBORN.

I desire to call attention to the species of this genus, in order to get further information, if possible, as to the occurrence of the species in this country. The species of the genus that were described by Jenyns (*Annals of Natural History*, 1839, III., p. 241-244) have often been considered simply as the common house-bug occurring upon the different animals which they were described as infesting—the bat, the pigeon, and the swallow. As these descriptions are quite inaccessible to most students, it will be in place to repeat them here, so that they may be compared and

used in the examination of any specimens obtained from different species of animals :—

“*Cimex hirundinis*.—This species is rather less than *C. columbarius*, and in respect to form different from both that and the *C. lectularius*.

“The antennæ are comparatively short, and the third joint is scarcely, if at all, longer than the fourth. The eyes are not so prominent, the thorax is much less hollowed out in front, the anterior angles but little produced, and the sides scarcely at all reflexed. The scutellum is wider at the base or more transverse, and does not project so far backwards. The elytra are less coarsely punctured; the abdomen is not so broad and more rounded at the apex; the sides regularly curved. The whole insect is more pubescent. The colour is ferruginous inclining to testaceous, darker than in the common bed-bug, and the head and thorax are much clouded with fuscous. In one specimen the legs are spotted at or near the joints with this last colour. There are also some fuscous spots on the abdomen.

“The young or pupæ have the abdomen much narrower than the perfect insect, inclining to oblong.

“*Cimex pipistrellæ*.—The antennæ of this species are of an intermediate length between those of the *C. lectularius* and those of the *C. columbarius*, and the third joint is obviously longer than the fourth. The eyes are prominent. The thorax has a moderately deep excavation in front, and the sides are partially reflexed. The abdomen is narrower than in either of the above named species, and much more attenuated posteriorly, the greatest breadth being rather before the middle. The thighs are more incrassated. The whole insect is more pubescent approaching to hispid, and rather coarsely punctured. The colour is dark ferruginous-ochre, glistening with a faint metallic or sub-aeneous hue, not perceptible in any of the other species. The legs and antennæ are a shade paler than the abdomen, and, as well as this last, without spots.

“*Cimex columbarius*.—On comparing this species with the common house-bug, it will be found to be smaller and of a more orbicular form. The antennæ are shorter, and the joints are not quite so slender, and the difference in length between the third and fourth joints not so considerable. The thorax is rather less hollowed out in front, the anterior angles less produced, and the sides less reflexed. The abdomen more nearly approaches to round, the lateral margins being very much curved, and the greatest breadth exactly in the middle; whereas, in the house-bug the lateral margins are at first but little curved, and the greatest breadth rather

behind the middle. The colours, as well as the punctures and the degree of pubescence, are similar in the two species."

Of these species the first named, the *hirundinis*, has been collected in large numbers by Prof. Gillette and myself at Ames, from the nests of barn-swallows, being first reported to us by workmen who were placing eavestroughs on the barn.

A short note on the species was published by Prof. Gillette in "Entomological News," under the name of *pipistrellæ*, with Mr. W. H. Ashmead cited as authority for the determination. The use of this name came from some verbal misunderstanding, we believe, and there is no question as to the specimens belonging to the form described by Jenyns as *hirundinis*. The specimens when compared with *lectularius* show very distinct differences, and these differences appear to be constant, as well as the habit of the insect, and it seems to me that the separation of the species is well founded, especially if the other forms are as distinct as this, and we would gather as much from the descriptions which have been quoted.

I should very much like to secure specimens or information as to the occurrence of the other species in this country, and the principal object of this note is to engage the attention of some one who may have the opportunity to examine the nests of bats and pigeons, where possibly they may be found.

The species found in the swallows' nests appears to remain entirely in the nests or upon the barn adjacent to them, some being observed on the sides of the barn nearly down to the ground. They were very abundant after the swallows had left, and specimens kept in a bottle corked with a rubber stopper were alive and active the following summer, so it would seem an easy matter for them to remain in the nests till the return of the swallows in the spring. The nests contained immense numbers of empty egg shells, showing that the eggs were deposited directly in the nests, and where the young bugs when hatching would at once get access to the birds.

In reply to a question by Mr. Stiles, Mr. Osborn stated that his observations were based upon the examination of several hundred specimens. He had examined what few bats he had had in the laboratory, but had had no opportunity to examine them in caves.

Mr. Lintner stated that housekeepers were generally of opinion that swallows brought *Acanthia* into houses.

Mr. Hubbard stated a case coming under his observation where a bat

had been put into an entomological case, and upon examination of the case afterwards a living *Acanthia* was found.

Mr. James Fletcher gave an entertaining account of a trip to Nepigon, north of Lake Superior, in quest of eggs of *Chionobas macounii*. No eggs of that species were obtained; but many interesting observations were made. Eggs of *Nemeophila selwynii* were secured, and the larvæ bred from them were described. *Grapta faunus* was bred from larvæ found on *Alnus viridis*, *Salix discolor* and *Betula papyrifera*, and an undescribed parasite was also reared. *Grapta progne* was also reared from larvæ on *Betula papyrifera*. The pupæ of several species of *Grapta* were described and outlines shown on the blackboard by which they could be distinguished. *Colias interior* was mentioned, and the food plant was stated to be willow (from the observations of Mr. T. E. Bean in the Rocky Mountains). Mr. Fletcher was of the opinion that it was also *Vaccinium*. Specimens of two western species of *Argynnis*, *A. cipris* and *A. electa* were taken at Nepigon, and the occurrence there commented on. *Lycæna lucia* was taken and an addition made to its food plants in the flowers and seeds of *Acer spicatum*. *Carterocephalus mandan* is not uncommon at Nepigon in roadways running through low woodlands. Eggs had been secured on grasses and several larvæ were being bred. *Nisoniades icelus*, common at Nepigon, was being bred from eggs laid on the upper side of the leaves of *Salix cordata*. The larvæ were found to exhibit different temperaments, one particular specimen being described as "very bad tempered". Some beetles had been collected, and the oviposition of *Myodites zeschii* in the unopened flowers of *Solidago canadensis* was described. An interesting *Mordella* had been taken on a white fungus growing on an old wharf, but the species did not seem to answer to any of those in the available literature. Species of *Donacia*, *Leptura* and some *Carabidæ* had been collected. *Trirhabda convergens* had been found abundantly on asters and solidagos. Of Hymenoptera many interesting species had been secured, *Abia kennicottii* amongst them, and several specimens of *Trichiosoma triangulum*.

Mr. Smith remarked upon the inactivity of *Myodites*. He had taken them upon solidago in New York State and had experienced no difficulty in collecting them upon the flowers at any hour of the day.

Mr. Schwarz stated that they were very active on buds, and it was somewhat difficult to collect them.

Mr. Cook then gave a few Notes on the Arthropoda of Liberia.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]