

Canthon viridis appears to live quite differently from its congeners, which are so well known as "tumble-bugs." It occurs, in my experience, only under decaying leaves, and the larva probably subsists on such leaves, and not on dung.

Aphodius serval is also not a dung-feeder, but occurs under old leaves. It appears late in the season, and rarely a hibernated specimen is found in spring, whereas the allied *A. inquinatus* is common in early spring and very rare in autumn.

Cryptocephalus schreibersi. This is one of the few *Chrysomelidæ* which live exclusively upon pine trees, and is also one of the few species of this genus which hibernate in the imago state.

Pachybrachys M-nigrum. Larva and imago in my experience only on *Rhus toxicodendron*.

Adimonia rufosanguinea. Larva and imago on *Azalea nudiflora*, the imago in May and June, the larva in August.

Pachyonychus paradoxus. The imago is common during the summer months around Washington on *Smilax*, where it eats very regular, oblong holes in the leaves. The larva is certainly not found on the same plant above ground, and is either a root-feeder or infests some other plant.

Haltica nana. Common in semi-tropical Florida, where the imago skeletonizes the leaves of *Croton glandulosum*.

Haltica fuscoænea. Larva and imago abundant on *Oenothera biennis* in July and August.

Chaetocnema quadricollis. Imago skeletonizes the leaves of *Verbena urticifolia* in southern Florida.

Glyptina cyanipennis. The imago devours the epidermis of the leaves of *Euphorbia cyatophora* in southern Florida, and is very destructive to that plant, which, however, is an obnoxious weed. The larva was not observed, and feeds probably on the roots.

Phyllotreta chalybeipennis. The food-plant of this species is *Cakile americana*, the larva mining in the leaves of this maritime plant.

Octotoma plicatula. The larva makes a tentiform mine in the leaves of *Tecoma radicans*; the imago eats oblong holes in the leaves. This is a common and widely distributed species, but generally overlooked by collectors. The plant has a wider distribution than the beetle, which I failed to find in Michigan and in central and southern Florida.

Cassida callosa feeds upon *Solanum nigrum* in southern Florida (Crescent City and Lake Worth).

Anthonomus profundus develops within the fruit of *Cratægus crus-galli*, the imago appearing in July.

Conotrachelus similis is peculiar to the "Gum-Elastic tree," *Bumelia lanuginosa*. The imago appears in great numbers when the tree is in bloom (in the month of June, at Crescent City, Florida), and no doubt oviposits in the forming fruit. The larva has, however, not yet been observed.

Conotrachelus ventralis. This is a species hitherto known only from

Florida. I found it quite abundantly in May along Biscayne Bay, exclusively on *Persea carolinensis*, and have strong evidence that the larva is inquiline in the galls of a Psyllid, *Trioza magnoliæ*. Within these galls I found frequently either a large egg or a young larva of a Curculionid, and I do not hesitate to consider these as belonging to this *Conotrachelus*, since the larva of another species of the genus (*C. posticatus*) has been observed to live within Homopterous (Phylloxera) galls.

Cryptorhynchus obliquus breeds in Hickory branches which are broken by the wind or otherwise injured. The larva makes a tolerably straight gallery several inches long through the solid wood of the twig.

Cryptorhynchus brachialis breeds in twigs of *Bumelia lanuginosa*.

Cryptorhynchus ferratus. This is a common species, which, near Washington, can be obtained from Oak, Chestnut, and various other trees. It extends to the semi-tropical region of Florida, but infests there only the branches of *Persea carolinensis*, and is never met with on the Oak.

Cryptorhynchus tristis develops under the bark of the trunk of *Quercus coccinea*. The imago feeds on the leaves, but is strictly nocturnal, hiding during day time in the ground at the base of the tree.

Chalcodermus æneus occurred in great number in semi-tropical Florida on a species of *Dolichos* (probably the common Cow-pea run wild), the larva infesting the pods of the plants.

Acamptus rigidus. This resembles in breeding habits certain Calandrid genera (*Phlæophagus*, *Stenoscelis*, *Wollastonia*). On the trunks of various trees we frequently see larger or smaller spaces deprived of bark. The bark has not been chopped or taken off by force, but I think these decorated places are caused by the influence of frost. The wood on such exposed places is always dead for some distance inward, and often very hard. In this case it attracts certain Ptinid beetles to bore and oviposit therein, but frequently the dead wood becomes affected by a kind of rot, which causes it to be soft, moist, and of a reddish color. It is in such cases that the *Calandridæ* above mentioned and *Acamptus rigidus* undergo their development in the rotting wood.

Copturus binotatus. This rare species is, in Mr. Ulke's and my own experience, confined to *Gleditschia triacanthus*, but I cannot tell whether it develops in the thorns or in the branches.

Plocamus hispidulus was bred by me in June from dead branches of *Robinia pseudacacia* infested with *Agrilus* larvæ.

Himatium errans occurred abundantly at Tallahassee, Fla., in April, in the deserted galleries of *Tomicus cacographus* under bark of *Pinus palustris*.

Himatium conicum breeds within the bark of *Liriodendron tulipiferum*, numerous specimens having been thus found by me near Washington, D. C., in autumn. The two North American species of this genus can be distinguished only with difficulty.

Dr. Marx called attention to a new organ in the female of *Fili-*

stata capitata Hentz, which consists of a pair of straight rows of rather long, flattened, and blunt, closely-set bristles or rods, 25 to 28 in number, situate at each side upon the inner surface and at the base of the first joints of the inferior spinnerets, closely over the underlying cribellum. From its structure and position, the speaker infers that these two peculiar comb-like organs might act as an accessory calamistrum. These organs have heretofore been overlooked by arachnologists, which is the more remarkable as they appear also in the common European species, *Filistata testacea*, as the speaker is informed by Prof. Thorell.

JUNE 27, 1889.

Nine persons present. President Schwarz in the chair.

Mr. G. W. J. Angell, of New York City, was elected a corresponding member of the Society.

In a note on May beetles, Dr. Marx stated that in the forests of Tuchel, near Graudenz, Prussia, comprising 16 forestry districts, 30,000 litres of beetles (*Melolontha vulgaris*) had been collected this season in each district, or in all 480,000 litres of beetles. One litre will contain 450 beetles, thus making a total of 216 millions destroyed.

Referring to the appearance of the Periodical Cicada in the District of Columbia, Prof. J. B. Smith said that on June 22d he had heard the Cicadas singing on the old oak trees on the 7th street road, not far from Soldiers' Home.

Mr. Ashmead read the following paper :

AN ANOMALOUS CHALCID.

By WM. H. ASHMEAD.

The little Chalcid, the subject of my remarks, and which I shall have the pleasure of showing you to-night, is not only one of the most anomalous of forms in the family *Chalcididae*, but, on account of the peculiarity of the wings, one of the most remarkable insects in the order Hymenoptera.

It was captured at large by my lamented friend Dr. R. S. Turner, at Fort George, Florida, and was only recently discovered among a quantity of unexamined material in this family that, for want of time, I have left unstudied.

In nearly all of the hymenopterous families are forms that present marked structural peculiarities, spines or horns on the head, scutellum,



Ashmead, William H. 1890. "An anomalous chalcid." *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 1, 234-236.

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