

with the exception of the pupa, has been secured from these eggs. Mr. Willing also sent eggs of *Argynnis Freya* from which Mr. Scudder reared the larvæ to the last stage in Boston, U.S., but unfortunately they then all died. It is hoped that future experiments with these species will be more successful.

HYMENOPTERA.—Satisfactory advance has been made in our knowledge of such members of this order as inhabit this region, and the number of forms which have been collected exceeds probably even that of our Coleoptera, the smaller parasitic species being remarkably numerous. Collections during the past summer were not so extensive as in some former seasons, but such an amount of undetermined and unarranged material has accumulated in our cabinets that there has been no lack of forms to study and to profitably employ the winter evenings. A preliminary list has been prepared of the species belonging to the family Proctotrypidæ : the first portion of which was printed in the December issue of the OTTAWA NATURALIST, while the remainder is now in type and will appear in the March number. These minute insects have in the past been greatly unmolested by Canadian collectors, so that new and interesting species have proved very numerous, as will be seen by the list which contains in all over 150 species. A case is exhibited this evening containing examples of all the species except such as are known only by type specimens in the collection of Mr. Ashmead, who has described nearly all the species. It will be observed that these insects are all very small, and with few exceptions require a microscopical examination for their identification. They are all parasitic in their mode of life, infesting the eggs and larvæ of other insects, but only a small proportion of the species has yet been bred, so we have yet to ascertain upon what insects many of the most common species are parasites.

One very remarkable instance of the manner in which such minute parasites destroy other insects has been recorded in a