

Whenever possible we bred the larvæ in order to determine the time necessary for the complete cycle. This was not found in any case to be lower than that given by Mègnin. It was found to be extremely difficult to obtain more than two generations. Unfortunately the pamphlet of instructions for practical entomological work, published by the Washington Bureau of Entomology was not obtained in time to adopt its valuable suggestions in our earlier observations.

In a case in which one of us (V.) was summoned as an expert, the nature of the fauna present afforded much valuable information. Early in May, 1895, the body of an unknown man was found dead in a lonely spot, with a bullet hole in the skull. There existed an advanced state of adipocere transformation, and in places the bones were partly bare. The body and clothes were swarming with small white larvæ which, from their characteristic skipping action, were thought to be those of *Pyophilæ casei*, and which on being hatched out subsequently proved to be so. In addition, the body and the clothing were literally covered with large dipterous larvæ and empty pupa cases. These we were not able to identify satisfactorily. No acari or coleoptera were found. The assumption of the police that the man had been murdered *during the winter* in a house near by was disproved by the evidence of abundant diptera, placing the date of exposure back to some time during the warm weather of the preceding summer or autumn. Following this clue, information was obtained which resulted in the body being identified as that of an individual who had been seen in the vicinity during the harvest season of the previous year and who was known to have a revolver in his possession. The subsequent finding of a revolver near where the body lay strengthened the original opinion of the medical examiner that the case was one of suicide.

In another case the body of a new-born male infant, found under some loose planks in the floor of a bath-room and directly over the kitchen ceiling in April, 1895, was sent to one of us (J) for examination with the statement that if the testimony of the witnesses was correct it must have been placed there on a certain night, 5 weeks previous. The supposed mother, a servant in the family had been noticed by strangers to have a suspicious degree of abdominal enlargement, though her mistress stated that she had not noticed this. After the night in question this enlargement suddenly vanished and the girl was noticed to be out of sorts for a few days. Her fellow servant who occupied the same room said that the accused had gone to the bath-room in the night "to change her socks" and had come back covered with blood. Marks of a copious bloody discharge were found