

was followed by a small species of *Tachina* or cuckoo-fly, which despite the energy of the wasp to carry off its prey, managed to deposit its minute eggs in the body of the spider; it effected this either in hovering in a direct line over the head of the wasp while it was dragging the spider, or keeping within range of its compound eyes, and no sooner did the wasp leave it for a short time, than the little fly would return and deposit its eggs. The wasp was instinctively aware of the presence of an enemy, which accounts for the strange erect position in which it sometimes placed itself. Whether this fly is a parasite on the larvæ of the wasp, making the spider the means of conveying its eggs to the nest, or on the spider, I am not in possession of facts to shew; but there is a probability it is the spider, and, that as soon as parasitic larvæ make their appearance, the wasp drags the spiders containing them, out of its burrow or nest, to the surface sand where they effect their propagation.

On the 28th of April, when examining the bark of trees for mining beetles, I came in possession of a cluster of insect's eggs that are new to me. The following description of the form, &c., under the microscope, together with the locality may lead to the discovery of the parent. The number is about fifty, closely arranged in quincunx order. Cup-like in form; lower part attached to the bark, light brown; a ring near the margin is dark brown, and the margin white, surrounded with short bristles, of the same color, which give it a star-like appearance. The lid is semi-spherical, whitish on the disk, and surrounded with a dark brown ring. The form of the egg is more oblong than round, and something less than a line in length. They are attached to the interior bark of the maple; probably they are *Colcopterous*. "The eggs of insects are very variable in shape; most perhaps are oval or round; in some instances they are lenticular, in others somewhat conical; sometimes they are pediculated. Many when examined through the microscope closely resemble the shelly cases of echini, often called sea-eggs. All insects deposit their eggs upon or near the substances which are to furnish the future caterpillars, grubs, &c., with food. Consequently situations chosen, and the mode in which their safety is secured, are almost as diversified as the species are numerous."

It is generally the case that students in entomology overlook the small insects, even when they constitute material towards their particular order, under the idea that they are too minute either to