

Mr. Tyrrell, whose researches in hydrachnidæ, sarcoptidæ, etc., are well known to the members of our Club, has kindly prepared the following notice of Dr. Koenike's paper on "Nordamerikanische Hydrachniden" for the NATURALIST.

II. NORTH AMERICAN WATER-MITES.

This report of sixty octavo pages contains a clear and exhaustive description of a collection of Canadian Water-mites, made by Mr. Tyrrell, of the Geological Survey Department, in this city, partly in the vicinity of Ottawa, and partly in the lakes and streams of the Rocky Mountains, between the Canadian Pacific Railway and the International Boundary line.

Dr. Koenike here describes thirty species, belonging to fourteen different genera, sixteen species and one genus being new. The descriptions are illustrated by seventy-two beautiful figures, arranged on two folding and one single plate. The paper will be a classic in the literature of these minute and usually bright coloured inhabitants of clear water, as it contains the first full and systematic description of a collection of Water-mites from North America.

The species of more particular interest to the Naturalists of Ottawa are *Evtais extendens*, the small red mite so often seen swimming among the weeds in quiet water. *Mideopsis orbicularis*, with its clear yellow body, and light red band down the back, was found in Patterson's Brook, near Bank street, on the 20th of January, 1883. *Tyrrellia circularis*, a reddish-brown water-mite, $\frac{1}{16}$ inch in length, with oval or almost circular dorsal outline, found crawling on the mud in a pond at Deschenes, on one of the Field Club Excursions on the 2nd of September, 1882. This species is the type of the new genus Tyrrellia. *Limnesia anomala*, a rather large mite, with sky blue legs found in Meach's Lake. *Atax ypsilophorus* parasitic in the gills of *Anodonta fragilis*. *Atax ingens*, a milk-white form, as large as a pea, found parasitic in the gills of *Anodonta fragilis* and *Unio complanatus* from Meach's Lake. *Atax fossulatus* parasitic in the gills of *Unio luteolus* from the Rideau river.

Most of the specimens supplied were collected in Alcohol, but water-mites, soft-bodied and generally brightly coloured creatures, are said to be best preserved in a three per cent. solution of Chloral Hydrate.