

I will add that there was no possibility of a mistake, as I had but one other Luna larva, (and it had spun up before I found the infested one, and like it produced a perfect moth, though not so large as that from the infested one), and these were the only two Luna larvæ and the only two Luna moths that I ever saw. I still have both. The infested larva was the last to spin up, but the first to emerge. Can you tell me what became of the Tachinæ?

V. T. CHAMBERS, *Covington, Ky.*

P. S.—Since the above was written, I have referred to my journal, and find that the first larva was taken on Sept. 2; the infested one on Sept. 4. The latter came out on May 6th, and the former on May 15th. Otherwise the facts are as above stated. V. T. C.

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#### NOTES ON SOME OF THE COMMON SPECIES OF CARABIDÆ, FOUND IN TEMPERATE NORTH AMERICA.

BY PHILIP S. SPRAGUE, BOSTON, MASS.

The many difficulties encountered by those entomologists who have neither time nor access to scientific libraries, but who wish to be more than mere collectors, have induced me to try and assist them, more especially those who are to some extent advanced enough to distinguish many of the families and genera of the Coleoptera. I also hope to be of some assistance to those beginners who have a true love of nature and her works. Yet were I to write for this class only, the *Entomologist* would be more than full for years. My first attempt will be to help the reader to classify some of the more common genera of *Carabidæ*, after which I will refer to the species, pointing out their particular differences by comparative descriptions. I shall endeavor to express myself in familiar phraseology, rather than in technical. To those who have not these instruments, a convenient magnifying glass, Le Conte's 'Classification and List of Coleoptera of N. A.,' are absolutely necessary. (1). I have had prepared a highly magnified drawing of one of our common summer beetles, *Harpalus caliginosus*, to plainly represent all those parts which are of the most importance in classification; the names should be printed with a pen on their appropriate parts, very plainly, that you may know them at a glance. You will find it of the greatest advantage to dissect a number of beetles, of the same and allied genera, comparing the different parts with each other and with the cut, and making drawings of the same, thus familiarizing yourself with the form and parts pertaining to the subject; if you are a new beginner, or have never done this, it is absolutely necessary, and you will be surprised to find how much you have learned with so little trouble (2).