of the most detailed papers always gives the impression that something is still wanting to explain the various facts related by the authors. Among the Hymenopterous-gall insects important progress was made in the discovery by the late B. Walsh of the dimorphism of *C. q. spongifica* and *C. q. aciculata*, the latter one a parthenogenetic species. But even here new observations are wanted to fill some gaps in the history of those species. Mr. W. F. Bassett, of Waterbury, Conn., draws my attention to the fact that in a letter in the Proc. Entom. Soc. Lond., April, 1873, p. xv., he "did state most emphatically his belief that all one-gendered gall flies were the alternate of a two-gendered brood from galls of a different form."

Two papers by Dr. Adler, from Schleswig—"Contributions to the Natural History of the Cynipidæ," and "On the Ovipositor and on Oviposition of Cynipidæ," in Berlin, Entom. Zeitschr., vol. xxi., 1877, Decbr., which have just arrived here, are prominently remarkable. I believe the way so long sought for is found, to understand the complicated relations not only of the Hymenopterous gall insects, but probably of all other gall insects, and perhaps, also, of some other insects not gall-producing. These papers are equally remarkable both by the manner of the experiments, the judicious conclusions drawn from them, and the clear and plain description of what he has observed. Dr. Adler has raised the species through several years. In Cynipidæ the raising is less difficult, as the eggs are mature the moment the insect has passed its last transformation; the females are usually disposed to lay the eggs directly, and are, at least many of them, not disturbed by observation; therefore the experiments with them followed through several years become more reliable.

The parthenogenesis of *Rhodites rosae* was proved by direct raising through three years. The fact is, indeed, more remarkable as males exist in a very small number, about one to a hundred females; but a copulation was never observed. The females carefully separated after their transformation, laid the eggs in confinement. Moreover, a number of females were dissected and showed always the receptaculum seminis empty, therefore proving that the eggs were not impregnated.

Other series of observations lead to the interesting discovery of alternating generation by a number of species, which were considered to belong to different genera, but are now proved to be the winter form and the summer form of the same insect.

Neuroterus fumipennis was raised from the galls, the imagines placed