

# The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. XVI.

LONDON, ONT., JULY, 1884.

No. 7

## NOTES ON ANT LIONS.

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One day on my late visit to Ridgeway, a party of four went on an entomological excursion by boat to a place about four miles west, called Point Abino. After taking a survey of the situation and lightening our lunch basket, we went to work. Each had his specialty; one desired beetles, another butterflies. Seeing *Myrmelion* on the wing, I turned my attention to the Ant Lions. I did not succeed in securing many of them, for although the funnel-shaped pits of the nymphs were in surprising numbers, very few of the mature insects were to be seen, it being probably a little too early for them. I captured but four specimens, one *obsoletus*, and three of what was kindly determined for me by Dr. Hagen, of Cambridge, Mass., as *Myrmelion abdominalis* Say, whose figured-gauze wings are charming objects seen through a lens. The slight acquaintance I have with them has been acquired during my visits to Ridgeway, none of them having ever been seen about Hamilton so far as I know. Mr. J. Pettit secured an *obsoletus* while he was collecting at Grimsby, but I think he never got a second, although no doubt they were there to some extent, but probably very scarce. Fine loose sand is evidently a necessity of their existence in any locality, and I would suppose comparative seclusion; both of these they have in perfection at Point Abino. I saw large patches of sand so loose that weeds could not take root upon it, and which had not been disturbed by the foot of man or beast probably for weeks, and some of these places were so occupied with their pits that it did not seem possible to get another one in without interfering with those already there. These pits were about three inches across the top, and two or two and a half deep. Their width must be in exact proportion to their depth, for the slope of the sides is just what will support the particles of loose sand. They must have their pits to make frequently during their larval existence, for every heavy shower will fill them all up. They never expose themselves to view except by accident, but lie just immediately under the