

And the water itself! How it reflected every one of Nature's moods. Now frowning as a cloud passes over the sun; now smiling back when the sun smiles down through a rift; now rippling in glee as the gentle breeze kisses it. But more than all, how mysterious it is! As one stands and looks down into its depths, one can understand why the Greeks peopled the water with Naiads. It would not be a very great surprise if a dragon *did* suddenly arise from the cool water and sally forth to find its dinner!

Indeed, though the day of the fiery dragon is long since gone, there are many fearsome beasts below the calm surface, each as terrible in its way as the dragon of St. George. Come and look down through this opening in the weeds. Now see! There is a dragon for you! That creature, about an inch long and a quarter wide, grayish-white in colour, with the huge pair of jaws, is a water tiger, and well deserves his name. No insect or tadpole into which he can sink those jaws is safe from him, and his appetite is similar to Oliver Twist's, except that he always wants more. Some day he will be a big, black, shining beetle. Look again! Do you see that creature on the dead vegetation at the bottom? It moves very very slowly now. Does it not remind you of a cat stalking a mouse? Well, it *is* stalking something—some tiny creature that is near to it. When within range, an extraordinary "jaw" is suddenly shot out and—our dragon goes off feeling a little more comfortable! By-and-by that ungraceful creature will be a glittering dragon-fly and will charm us with its fairy-like movements and appearance.

It was in that slough that, with a beginner's luck, I took several rare beetles. With an enthusiasm worthy of success I went over to it early in April. It was so cold that the net would stiffen with frost when out of the water and the sheltered parts of the pond were masked with ice. Looking over my records, it is surprising how many are for 13.IV and 15.IV. They include a species of *Laccophilus* to which Mr. C. H. Roberts, of New York, has given a manuscript name, and two specimens of *Hydroporus oblongus* Steph. Of the former I have since taken but one specimen; of the latter, none.

In the first week of May, in the same slough, two more prizes turned up: *Hydroporus rufinasus* Mann and *Agabus clavatus* Lec.