

found. I describe these species in a paper on the Architecture of *Vespa Maculata* Linn, read by me a short time ago, before the Ottawa Natural History Society.

WM. COUPER, Ottawa, Ont.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTE.

HAIR SNAKES.—One day last Fall, a friend of mine, on stepping from his front door to the floor of the verandah, trod inadvertently upon a large spider. On removing his foot he perceived something, not naturally belonging to the spider, wriggling about on the ground, and on a closer inspection he discovered two minute snakes; these he brought to me, and I found them to correspond exactly with the description of the *Gordius*. They were, each of them, about two inches long, although when twisted up, as they were in tight knots, they occupied but a very small space. Their size was that of a horse-hair; their colour dark brown, almost black, the extremities being even darker than the intermediate portion.

Have you ever met with an instance of the *Gordius* making the body of a spider its temporary *habitat*? They are fresh-water *Abranchiata*, but my friend's house being near the river may possibly account for the fact of their being found in the body of the spider.—V. CLEMENTI, North Douro, Ont.

NOTE BY ED. C. E.—We have never met with a *Gordius* parasitic in a spider, having generally found them in grasshoppers, crickets, &c., and one in a beetle; but we are not surprised to learn that a large spider—probably one of those so common under stones on the margin of rivers—should be so infested.

NEW ENTOMOLOGICAL WORKS.

CATALOGUE OF THE ORTHOPTERA OF NORTH AMERICA, described previous to 1867. Prepared by Samuel H. Scudder. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, October, 1868. 90pp. 8vo. Price 75 cents.

The Smithsonian Institution has already given a great impetus to the study of many orders of insects in America by its publication of Catalogues and Monographs; it is now continuing the good work by the issue of the volume before us, which calls the attention of students and collectors to a hitherto much-neglected order. This Catalogue is an alphabetical list, according to genera, of all the species of Orthoptera which have been described by authors as inhabiting North America or the West Indies; while giving references to all the authorities for a species, it does not take any notice of synonyms, but merely reports upon the present state of knowledge of the order. The Institution proposes to publish Monographs of American Orthoptera and requests the assistance of specimens from any part of the Continent.