## THE CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST.

111

of somersaults, like the clown in a pantomime, disappeared from the stage. For nearly half an hour I hunted among the *debris* at my feet, and at last discovered the little harlequin playing 'possum under a twig.

At first I took this beetle for *Amphionycha flammata*, to which superficially it bears an extraordinary resemblance; but I found the ungues or claws (which are divaricate) simple instead of cleft; as they are distinctly cleft in *Amphionycha*, the foot appearing to end in four minute claws, it became certain my capture was *Eupogonius subarmatus*.

Another form of incidental capture is where beetles of a carnivorous habit resort to foliage in search of food. I have once taken *Calosoma scrutator*, and several times *Calosoma calidum* on the foliage of the white pine; these enterprising ground beetles poaching on the arboreal preserves for caterpillars; many of the diurnal fireflies, which are carnivorous, may be found resorting to foliage for the same purpose, and the *Coccinellidæ* or Lady-birds are regularly so taken. One July I found two or three species of Lady-bird resorting in large numbers to an asparagus bed, where they were doing yeoman service in devouring larve as they fed on the foliage; on the *menu* of their banquet, if not the *piice de resistance*, was *Crioceris asparagi*, and they were feasting royally.

Passing from incidental captures to those where the insect was found on its food-plant, I shall begin with an insect I saw in July three years ago, which did not devour the leaves, but using its jaws as a pair of scissors, cut them and rolled them up into cylinders. I mean the weevil, *Attelabus analis*, the oak-leaf roller.

I was examining the leaves of various plants, herbaceous and woody, along the railway track, some 12 miles north of Port Hope—especially willow shrubs and oak-seedlings whose foliage was lush and tender, the leaves being, many of them, still pink and soft—when I noticed a curculio with black head and snout, the thorax and elytra of a shining chestnut-red. I recognized it from having seen cabinet specimens as one of the oak-leaf rollers, and on diligent seach I found it fairly abundant and always on young leaves, which no doubt proved more pliable and easily worked by this ingenious little artificer. It was not easy to see much work done, as the beetle is easily alarmed, and drops from the leaf if approached too closely. I was able in one case, however, to watch the actual process of rolling, and in another some of the preliminary work of cutting. Observations published in an American journal of entomology go to prove that.