

outer lobe of the maxillae greatly elongated, being in some species equal to the length of the body, and very slender. As seen in the cabinet these lobes are widely separated, but in life they are closely approximated, forming a single nematoid appendage. In the present species this arrangement is admirably adapted to the character of the flowers on which they feed; the florets of the *Rudbeckias* being very long and very compactly inserted on the disk, to reach the nectaries at their bases, just such an armature is required. The lobes of the maxillae are inserted closed and do not embrace the florets nor open and shut in feeding, but are moved up and down like a drill, the needle shifting around among the florets without being withdrawn; but in what way the nourishment is conveyed to the mouth I could not ascertain.

The species of this genus are numerous west of the Mississippi, and it would be interesting to learn what species of flowers they frequent.

NOTE ON ORYSSUS SAYI.

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The members of the genus *Oryssus* are apparently rare in Canada, and I was therefore much pleased to capture on the 2nd June a fine ♀ *O. Sayi*. It was running up and down a telegraph pole (one of the new ones put up for the electric light wires), and had at first glance all the appearance of some small wasp (*Crabronidæ*), searching for a suitable hole for its nest. Its movements were very quick, and its antennæ vibrated rapidly. It was so alert and restless that my prospects of capturing it without a net seemed far from bright. However, the capture was made, and its struggles in my cyanide bottle were brief. A few days later I took a ♂ upon one of the same poles, although in a different part of the city, and saw what appeared to be another of these insects fly away from higher up the pole. On the 24th I secured another female, which was even more active than the first, and which flew away and returned to the same place twice before I effected its capture. This habit of flying away when disturbed and of returning, even from some distance, to the very spot left, is one which I have noticed in other species of *Uroceridæ*. The poles upon which the above specimens were taken are cedar, and it is more than probable that the insects had emerged from the poles, as many had very numerous holes in them, apparently of *Uroceridæ* as well as of *Coleoptera*.