

certain horny processes between it and the mesothorax, or against the base of the elytra. It is not so generally known, however, that the above named insect forms a decided exception to the rule. This species is a true fiddler, stridulating like the Orthopterous *Locustide* by rubbing the hind femora against the elytra. If a specimen be carefully examined, the inside of these femora will be found rasped from the base to near the tip, by a number of short longitudinal ridges, which, when played against the thin and sharp emarginations of the elytra, produce the rather loud creaking so peculiar to this beetle.

I cannot recall any author who has published this fact, though as *Prionus coriarius* is called "the fiddler," in Germany, that species may stridulate in the same manner.— C. V. RILEY, St. Louis, July 9, 1872.

P. S. *Prionus imbricornis* Linn. (i. e., the dark brown form which, I believe, is labeled *obliquicornis* in I.e Conte's collection), likewise stridulates by rubbing the hind femora against the lateral edges of the elytra. But as the thigh in this species does not reach as far above the wing-cover as does that of *Orthosoma cylindricum*, we find no rasp on the inside, which is perfectly smooth; and the noise is produced by the friction of the inner lower margin, principally near the end of the thigh, where it is slightly dilated.— C. V. R.

INSECTS IN PENNSYLVANIA.—The Seventeen-year Locusts, as they are called, have made their appearance here and in the vicinity. Here, very abundantly, but diminish in numbers at Jersey Shore and Lock Haven. Further westward, I saw none. In the stage from the depot to Jersey Shore, I listened to an exposition by a physician! on the poisonous qualities of the insect in question, of the existence of which quality he was quite assured. The lady, however, who was his inquisitor, thought it strange if the "locusts" were really so poisonous, that the children, who handled them freely, were not more frequently poisoned. The doctor got over this by assuring the lady that they were not "aggressive."

Popular report gives the year 1865 as that of their last appearance, but this is not very reliable authority.

So far as intervals of business allow me to judge, I should say that insect life is not abundant in North-western Pennsylvania this year. An *Argynnis* observed at Ridgway, nearly at the summit of the Alleghanies, in considerable abundance. Have not yet determined the species. *Cicini*; *delaë*, principally *repanda*, 12 *guttata*, with a few *purpurea*, found on the banks of the Susquehanna from Schickshinny downwards.— W. V. ANDREWS, Williamsport, Pa., June, 1872.