

propose this nomenclature; besides, *Quercus* supports other genera of gall-makers. The combined generic name is in the nominative case and will not conflict with the many specific names which have been drawn from the plant and used in the genitive. In many cases the genitive of the plant genus has been used in combination with a specific name not derived from the plant, as *Cynips-quercus-futilis*. The suggestion made by Osten Sacken that in these cases the genitive or its initial (which is often all that is used) should be dropped seems worthy of being carried into effect, as this genitive appears in most cases to have been inserted by accident or error.

This nomenclature also has the advantage of not presenting the appearance of describing what is unknown; it has no binding force of priority over the specific name of the insect when that is discovered. It has, however, a priority in the description of galls, and the specific name should be retained as the name of the gall, even though the insect should by chance receive a different name or it should prove not to belong to the genus under which the gall is described. It also has the advantages of simplicity and of conformity with medical usage in naming gall diseases of animals.

To exemplify the principle I name the following galls described in the 5th Rept. U. S. Ent. Comm :

- p. 612, 30, *C.-c. oviformis*.
- p. 613, 31, *C.-c. semenrumicis*.
- p. 613, 32, *C.-c. pubescens*.
- p. 613, 33, *C.-c. capsularis*.
- p. 614, 34, *C.-c. spiniformis*.

THYREOPUS ADVENUS (Sm.), PACK., A PROTECTOR OF THE ARMY WORM.—This species is an exception among burrowing wasps in being injurious to vegetation, as I have found it killing and carrying to its nest *Sarcophaga*, *Musca domestica*, and that enemy of the Army worm, *Belvosia unifasciata*. The wasp forms its small hillocks under the shelter of shade trees late in August, in Connecticut. In rainy summers its numbers are much reduced. *Miltogramma* pursues the wasp with felonious intent. The wasp may be destroyed by pouring strong alkaline washes into the burrows.

The *B. unifasciata* varies in having a red tail, contrary to the name *flavicauda* by which it was formerly known. W. H. PATTON.