

this curious object and was told that the larvæ had been killed by covering them with salt."

There are accounts of these curious aggregations of larvæ in many American and European publications (*e. g. Insect Life*, iv, p. 215). In Europe, worm-snakes have been recorded which were 4 or 5 inches wide and from 10 to 12 feet long. Most of the American accounts (which may perhaps seem strange to some!) describe as a rule worm-snakes much more moderate in proportions, viz. from 3 to 6 feet in length by from 1 to 3 inches wide. Upon one occasion only have I seen one of these worm-snakes. This was some miles from Népigon, north of Lake Superior, in the month of August. The snake was about 4 feet long, about an inch wide and with a large expansion about one third of the length from the head. I had no convenience at the time to preserve the larvæ alive so as to identify the species. It is probable that several species of *Sciara* have this strange habit but I am not aware that anyone has ever reared to maturity and published the name of the American species. Unfortunately most people who have the opportunity, like those who put salt on the larvæ seen by Mr. Willing, are much more likely to practise the stupid habit of destroying everything they do not quite understand instead of trying to learn a little more about it.

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Among the latest contributions to the Herbarium of the Normal School is a very beautiful collection of 100 mounted Botanical specimens illustrating the flora of the Rocky Mountains in the vicinity of Banff, presented to the herbarium by Dr. Jas. Fletcher. The Normal School herbarium already contains a fine series of the plants of the vicinity of Ottawa, and this latest contribution not only adds greatly to the value of the herbarium, but these western plants will enable students to compare eastern with western forms in the same genera.

S. B. S.