

Pulex Howardii, n. sp.

I have received specimens of this species as follows: On Red Squirrel, at Ithaca, N. Y., from Mr. R. H. Pettit; on Squirrel, at Tallula Falls, Ga., from Mr. L. O. Howard (No. 5435); on "Gray or Fox" Squirrel, and in nest of field mouse, at Lincoln, Nebraska, from Prof. Lawrence Bruner; also several specimens from Prof. Herbert Osborn, at Ames, Iowa, the host not given.

Pulex coloradensis, n. sp.

The nearly parallel upper and lower borders of the abdomen in the single male before me, give it a somewhat peculiar appearance. It was taken from Fremont's Chickaree, at Georgetown, Colo., by Professor Lawrence Bruner.

Pulex ignotus, n. sp.

I have received two specimens of this species from Prof. Herbert Osborn, of Ames, Iowa. The host is not given.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

MOUNTING INSECTS WITHOUT PRESSURE.*

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The mounting of insects (which are naturally semi-transparent) without pressure has always appeared to me to be a far more satisfactory method than the process so generally in use, viz., the soaking the specimen in liquor potassæ until clear, and then pressing it flat between two glass slips. The liquid partially, or wholly, destroys the internal organs, and the flattening process completes what the liquid failed to accomplish; that is, in so distorting the insect that the flattened skin on the slip but very remotely resembles the natural insect.

In mounting without pressure, some kind of a cell is necessary, and it can be obtained in various materials, such as ebonite, hard rubber, brass, tin, etc., but my own experience with cells of any depth cemented to the slip has been anything but satisfactory, for very often a fall, or even a slight jar, will separate the cell from the glass slip.

The cells that I use are the same that I described some three years ago at a meeting of this section, and up to the present time I have not found anything that answers all requirements so well, and yet is so easy to construct.

* Read before the Microscopical Section of the Entomological Society of Ontario.