

species are all from a few localities in Eastern Ontario and Quebec, so that the Dominion as a whole has been practically unworked. The three western species are *Mesitius vancouverensis* and *Polymecus vancouverensis*, collected by the Rev. G. W. Taylor, of Victoria (and communicated through the writer to Mr. Ashmead), and *Anteon puncticeps*, taken by Mr. Wickham.

Although the Proctotrypids are all small, and frequently microscopic, they show great variations in structure, and their study thus becomes very interesting. A large proportion of them are egg-parasites, while others prey upon Aphididæ, Cecidomyidæ, etc. In many species (noticeably in the sub-family Bethylinæ) the females differ largely from the males in the shape of the head, antennæ and structure generally. Those of the sub-family Dryininæ have remarkable chelate, or pincer-like claws, on the anterior feet, which are probably for more firmly grasping, during oviposition, the small, active homopterous insects on which the larvæ are parasitic. Many forms are wingless or have very rudimentary wings, but they are, nevertheless, very nimble little atoms, and can leap many times their own length.

As the appearance of Mr. Ashmead's splendid monograph may stimulate some of our members to the collection and study of these insects, it may be stated that a considerable number of the species, such as *Bæus*, etc., may be obtained even in winter by sifting moss as is done for small coleoptera. This habit of hibernating in the moss of swampy localities is another feature (not mentioned by the author) which separates them from the other hymenoptera known to me, with the exception, perhaps, of ants, which are also occasionally obtained in sifting.

W. H. H.

CORRESPONDENCE.

SYNCHLOE LACINIA, ABERR. RUFESCENS.

I had intended to withdraw this name, lest the form to which it refers might be one of those already named as a species; but now that it has been published by Mr. Edwards (Vol. XXV., p. 287), it will be useful to define its precise application. The original specimen was described by me as follows:—Bands ochre strongly suffused with orange above and below; bands on upper side of hind-wings broad, orange, reaching to the row of white spots; outer row of spots on both wings unusually large; band on upper side of fore-wings practically continuous. Size, rather small. Juarez (not Juarey), Mexico, Aug. 26.

T. D. A. COCKERELL,

Las Cruces, New Mexico, Nov. 13th, 1893.

Mailed January 15th.