

Ottawa, Dec. 14, 1882.

*My Dear Sir:* In the last ENTOMOLOGIST, at page 198, Mr. Fyles contributed a note on a gall mite of the Nettle tree. The insect referred to is undoubtedly Prof. Riley's *Psylla altidis-maxima*, of which I exhibited the galls and pupæ at the last Annual Meeting of the Society, and of which I have already sent you an account in a paper on "The Cicadæ and their Allies," for the Annual Report. I notice that Mr. Fyles found his galls to be monothalamous, and this agrees with Prof. Riley's description. I have found, however, in examining a large number of specimens, that many contained 2, 3, and in one case even 4 pupæ. The occurrence of *Celtis occidentalis* at Cowansville is very interesting from a botanical point of view. In this locality it is very uncommon, although from its resemblance to the Elm, it has probably been frequently overlooked. It grows to the size of a small tree from 30 to 40 feet in height, with a diameter of from 12 to 18 inches. In Western Canada I believe it is a common tree, and I should be glad to learn whether it is there attacked by this *Psylla* to the same extent it is here. In some of the galls I examined I found the larvæ of apparently two different species of parasitic Hymenoptera.

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*Editor Can. Ent.—Dear Sir:* I am sure your readers were pleased at your printing the pretty lines on a winter butterfly, which Mr. Fletcher took the trouble to send. (See p. 219 vol. xiv.) I remember very many years ago, in January, finding a hibernating *Vanessa Antiopa* in the garret of our Staten Island farm house. It hung from a rafter and seemed almost dead. I placed it on a brick flue, which was hardly warm, but it did not revive at the time. Some few days after, the weather having become milder, I searched for it and found it where I had laid it, still on its side, with the legs drawn in. But on touching it, the wings suddenly unclosed, the insect took to flight, and, the window being open, it escaped into the winter sunshine. Some years after I found three or four specimens of *Pyramis Atalanta* under the same circumstances, all close together, hanging to a rough rafter and perfectly torpid. On being placed in a warm room they revived in a short time and I allowed them to escape. As early as warm February days I have met the Camberwell Beauty and Admiral, in solitary state, on the wing. The south side of Staten Island soon gets warmed by the Spring sun, and is a good collecting field for the entomologist.

A. R. GROTE.