

PHASMIDAE.

This family is very feebly represented in the United States, only half a dozen different genera with from one to three species each having been detected. These few species, however, represent three of the dozen recognized subfamilies. With the exception of *Diapheromera* which has a wide distribution, most of the species are found only in the west or the extreme south. One genus is confined to the United States.

All of our species are apterous, and though, on occasion, the males may run with some rapidity, they are all generally sluggish in movement, and depend for their protection largely on their resemblance to twigs and on the action of their prothoracic glands, which may emit an offensive fluid or spray when the insect is alarmed. Their eggs are dropped loosely and singly on the ground; they are of very varied structure, covered with an exceedingly hard and often strikingly sculptured shell, and so far as we know continue through the winter, sometimes through a second, before hatching. Our commonest species feeds upon the tough leaves of the oak.

Subfamilies of Phasmidae.

*A*¹. Tibiae not furnished at apex with a sunken areola to receive the base of the tarsi when bent upon them. (The antennae are much longer than the anterior femora and furnished with at least thirty joints, and the median segment is much shorter than the metanotum.) *Bacunculinae.*

*A*². Tibiae furnished at apex beneath with a sunken areola to receive the base of the tarsi when bent upon them.

*b*¹. Antennae many jointed, longer than the fore femora; median segment shorter than the metanotum; without spines on head, thorax or legs; anterior segments of abdomen transverse, at least in the ♀. *Anisomorphinae.*

*b*². Antennae with less than twenty joints, shorter than the fore femora; anterior segments of abdomen much longer than broad. *Bacillinae.*