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THE LARVÆ OF DONACIA PISCATRIX, LAC., AND CRASSIPES, FAB.*

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Though the larvæ and life-histories of several species of the Chrysomelid genus Donacia have been described more or less fully by European entomologists, I have been able to find but one such note in American entomological literature. In 1877 Dr. A. S. Packard gave a brief description of the larva and life-history of Donacia cincticornis, Newm., var. proxima, Kby., in the report of the U. S. Geological Survey for that year (p. 806), together with figures of the larva and cocoon (Pl. LXX., figs. 17-19) which he found on the roots of Nuphar advena.

Recently I have been fortunate in being allowed to study the Chrysomelid larve in the collection of the U. S. National Museum, and among them was glad to find several species of this genus and Hæmonia, which with it form the tribe Donaciinæ. Specimens of eggs, larve and pupæ of Donacia piscatrix and larve of Hæmonia nigricornis are both present from the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers, collected, I judge, by Messrs. Hubbard & Schwarz, and larvæ of D. semicuprea, D. crassipes, and H. zosteræ from Europe. The larvæ of Donacia piscatrix and crassipes I have found so very similar that they may be described together without mentioning the minute points of difference.

Several very distinct or typical shapes exist among Chrysomelid larvæ, which to a certain extent are characteristic of different tribes. Such are (1) the short, inflated larvæ of Chrysomela and its allies; (2) the case-bearing Cryptocephalinæ and Clythrini, with their recurved

^{*}Read before the Entomological Society of Washington, May 3rd, 1900.