

## ON THE HABITS OF AMBLYCHILA CYLINDRIFORMIS, SAY.

DEAR SIR,—

This beetle, usually considered very rare, is, I am satisfied, much more common than heretofore supposed.

I base this opinion on my own observations, and have a good collection to sustain it. Their peculiar habits are evidently the great cause of their rarity, and, once understood, I am positive they will become quite common.

Their geographical distribution is, so far as is now known, rather limited ; yet there is now no reason to suppose that they will not eventually be found extending over a large portion of Kansas and Colorado.

The following is such as I have learned concerning them :

Nocturnal (Crepuscular) rarely being taken until after sunset, and occasionally in the early morning. Found usually along clay banks, where they live in holes generally made by themselves, where they find that seclusion so congenial to their nature. The state of the weather affects appreciably this insect. When cold and blustery they remain concealed, preferring a warm, balmy air ; occasionally a *warm, cloudy afternoon* will entice them from their retreats, but this is rarely to be expected. Like the rest of the *Cicindelidæ*, they are predaceous. They also feed on effete matter. In many of their habits they are like *Asida*.

HARRY A. BROUS, Manhattan, Kansas.

## ON CAPTURING CATOCALAS IN THE DAY-TIME.

DEAR SIR,—

According to promise, I give you my method of capturing *Catocalas* in day-light. I very seldom take my net with me when hunting them, as they are such lively insects when in the net that they are sure to injure themselves by rubbing the scales off the thorax, which spoils their appearance. I take with me a long blue beech sapling, a wide-mouthed wine-glass with the bottom broken off, a piece of pasteboard and a small bottle of chloroform. When on the ground where I usually hunt them, which is a wood of white oak and hickory, I commence by rubbing the blue beech stick quickly up and down the side of the tree. The *Catocalas* usually settle low down on the trees, and when disturbed by the noise made by rattling