

teresting monstrosities discovered by him in examining his coleoptera, in each of which the right antenna is curiously malformed. The species are *Dytiscus Harrisii*, *Desmocerus palliatus* and *Adimonia cavicollis*.

MOSS-SIFTING.—We would specially call the attention of our entomologists to the value of the method of collecting moss late in the autumn for examination during the winter. This consists simply of tearing the moss to shreds and shaking it through a sieve over a sheet of white paper, when large quantities of small species, otherwise seldom found, can be collected. As an instance of what may be done in this line, two small cotton bags were filled with moss early in November, which, when carefully examined, yielded over one hundred species of insects in different orders. This method also gives valuable information regarding the species which hibernate in the perfect state. The bags should be kept slightly frozen, but not exposed to excessive cold, as 20° below zero has been found to kill everything in a bag.

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#### ENTOMOLOGICAL NOTES.

During July many of the grasshoppers and other members of the order Orthoptera become fully grown, and as their numbers increase they do marked damage to vegetation. In the adult state the majority of the species possess fully developed wings, and can thus move more rapidly to new feeding grounds. There are however, wingless forms and of these a very interesting species is now abundant, although perhaps many of our members may not observe it. This insect is commonly known as the "Walking Stick," a name which its appearance easily gains for it, while entomologists have named it *Diaperomera femorata*. When young the "Walking Sticks" are pale green and not easily discerned on the young foliage of the trees, hickory and oak, upon which they feed. They grow brownish with age, and attain a length of about three inches, the female being stouter and less active than the male. The legs and antennæ are very long and slender and the whole structure of the insect tends to disguise it and to prevent its enemies from detecting it as long as it remains upon its food plants. A charming article by Dr. Scudder on this group of insects, with beautiful illustrations, appeared in a recent number of Harper's Magazine.

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