

ENTOMOLOGY.

Edited by JAMES FLETCHER, F.R.S.C.

Corydalis cornutus. Several times last summer this insect was sent in by members for information as to its name and habits. This is not surprising, as it is one of the most striking in our insect fauna, and yet from its crepuscular habit of flight, but seldom observed. It is as remarkable and interesting in its earlier stages, as when it assumes the adult, or winged form. The larva passes its life in the water, and is a common inhabitant of our rivers, being quite abundant for instance in the Rideau. In this stage it lives nearly three years, and when fully grown is a dirty brown "crawler," with a squarish head armed with strong jaws. In addition to six legs, it has several tapering appendages on each side, which gives it some resemblance to much dreaded centipedes. It breathes during its aquatic existence, by means of tuft-like gills placed at the base of the lateral appendages. About June (of its third year) it becomes tired of its submarine life, and seeks change of scene, and may then be found under stones or drift wood, sometimes at quite a distance from the water. Forming a shallow cell it pupates, and about the first of July spreads its ample wings in heavy flight over the surface of the stream in which it erstwhile crept. The expanded wings measure almost six inches from tip to tip, but the heavy body of the insect causes it to be a feeble and awkward flier. The body of the adult much resembles that of the larva, but the male develops an enormous pair of horn-shaped mandibles, which give him a very formidable appearance. This species belongs to the Neuroptera, and is allied to our dragon-flies, as may be readily seen by examining the many veined wings. The larva is considered by fishermen to be an excellent bait, and has received in the United States a variety of names, among which the following are taken from *Insect Life*:—Dobsons, Crawlers, Amly, Conniption Bugs, Clipper, Water Grampus, Goggle Goy, Bogart, Crock, Hell Devils, Flip Flaps, Alligators, Ho Jack, Snake Doctor, Dragon and Hell Diver.—The adult is also known as the Hellgramite Fly.

W. H. H.