

slightly transverse; 9th to 11th forming a loose club. Head and clypeus simple in the male, in which sex there is a small setigerous fovea near the base of the first ventral segment.

***Sphindocis denticollis*, n. sp.**

Rufotestaceous, strongly shining, prothorax and elytra coarsely, closely, uniformly punctate; head similarly but not quite so coarsely so. Prothorax one-third wider than long, sides parallel and broadly arcuate, margins narrowly, abruptly reflexed and quadridenticulate. Elytra scarcely wider than the prothorax, slightly more than twice as long as wide, sides parallel to apical two-fifths, apex evenly rounded. Beneath coarsely, closely punctate anteriorly, abdomen except the basal segment finely and sparsely so. Length 3.75 mm.; width 1.25 mm.

California (Alameda Co.). A single male. If we exclude the Rhipidandrinae this is the largest *Ciside* known to me. In its size and denticulate thorax it somewhat suggests *Odontosphindus*. The surface, as in *Orthocis*, is not perfectly glabrous, each puncture bearing a very minute hair.

SEASONAL IRREGULARITIES IN THE
OCCURRENCE OF DRAGONFLIES.

BY E. M. WALKER, TORONTO.

The exact composition of the dragonfly fauna of a given locality is subject to frequent change. The effects of erosion on the beds of streams, the deposition of sediment and the accumulation of organic debris in lakes and ponds are constantly producing gradual changes of environment which react on the Odonate fauna, as on other groups of aquatic life, resulting in time in the disappearance of many of the original resident species and the invasion of new forms better adapted to the altered conditions. The drying up of water-courses, due to the clearing of the forests, the pollution of streams and the filling of ponds and swamps are also causing the disappearance of many species from the affected localities, while other species previously unknown in the district find suitable breeding-places in newly created bodies of water, such as result from damming streams, the construction of canals, drainage ditches through swamps and along railways, gravel pits and other excavations, etc.

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