

or sink into the card. A sufficient number of spots of this are placed about a quarter of an inch apart, and on each spot is laid a beetle, back down, care being taken that the head, legs and antennæ are kept from contact with the cement. When the latter has hardened sufficiently to hold the insect in its place, its antennæ, palpi, legs, etc., may be adjusted with a very small, short-haired, red sable pencil, just moistened, enough to make the hairs adhere together and form a single point. For the larger and more refractory ones, a fine sewing needle, set in a wooden handle, and bent at an obtuse angle at the point, may be used.

When the limbs have been properly adjusted, the insects may be laid away to dry, which will require three or four days for the smaller, and twice that time for the larger ones. When dry they may be removed from the card by inserting the point of a fine needle under the shoulder; if this is carefully done the insect will generally come clear off without damage to the most delicate pubescence or the longest bristles. Any portions of the mucilage which may adhere to the elytra, may be removed with the needle point or the sable pencil moistened as before. Each specimen may then be mounted on a strip of card-board, or fastened in the cell of a microscope slide with a minute touch of Canada balsam, and a thin glass cover cemented over it, when it will form an interesting object for examination either by direct or transmitted light.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Prof. Bell has kindly sent with the above paper a series of specimens illustrating the families of insects he has referred to, all neatly mounted on microscopic slides, comprising twenty in all. Many of these are extremely interesting, and the mounting is such as would do credit to an expert. We are greatly indebted to our friend for this liberal donation to our Society's collection. They are valuable not only as beautiful slides for the microscope, but have also been carefully determined and are numbered to correspond with the numbers under which their names are found in Crotch's Check List, and hence will be very useful for reference. This is the second time we have had the pleasure of calling attention to Prof. Bell's liberality in this direction.—ED. C. F.