

ishment I beheld, perched on the top of the carcase in the midst of the flies, a beautiful specimen of that most lovely moth, *Amphion nesus*, Cram. Having no net with me, I tried in vain to capture it, and, though repeatedly disturbed, it returned again and again to its horrid repast. I have often seen specimens of *Danaïs archippus* and other butterflies swarm about dead fish on the shores of Lake Simcoe, but I hardly expected to find so lovely a moth in such a position, in the full noon-tide heat and glare of the day; I have usually taken it hovering over the fragrant blossoms of the lilac, in the cool twilight of the evening.—C. J. S. B.

MUSICAL LARVÆ.—No. 5 of your valuable little Journal, full of interesting matter as usual, is before me. In regard to musical larvæ of Lepidoptera, I am happy to communicate a fact from my own observations on the larva of *Cressonia juglandis*, Grote (*Smerinthus juglandis* of Smith, Harris, et auct. al.) We find this species in the month of September, often into October, upon the "hickories" *Carya alba* and *porcina*. When the tree is struck or jarred, any larvæ that may be upon the leaves give utterance to a note resembling the sound *tcêp* or *tceep*, produced by the inspiration of a small quantity of air between the upper teeth of the human mouth and the lower lip, as in the act of sucking. As this larva clings quite firmly to its foothold, the jar may be often repeated, each time with the same result, before the insect is dislodged. On being seized between the thumb and finger a little behind the middle, it flexes the body sharply from side to side, with a simultaneous emission of the sound alluded to. While writing the above, my valued friend, Mr. Philip S. Sprague, of this city, has recalled the fact of a similar sound being produced by the larvæ of *Smerinthus excecatus*, Smith, and *geminatus*, Say, when irritated, in the breeding cage. Mr. S. has, in his own mind, attributed this sound to the motion of the mandibles upon each other (quasi "gnashing of teeth?"). I presume similar occurrences have been noticed by other observers, and no doubt more thorough acquaintance with many of our so-called "dumb animals" will prove that "There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard."—F. G. SANBORN, Boston, Mass.

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