

tree for the pretty little homopteron, which forms galls on the leaf of the hackberry (*Psylla Celtidis-mamma*, Riley), and which passes the winter in a torpid state beneath the scales of the bark of the hackberry, the color of which it closely resembles. In passing through the swamps, tufts of moss are pulled from any exposed hummocks to be picked to pieces at home when they have thawed out. Here will be found many treasures which we have not found in any other way. Every cluster of leaves adhering to a deciduous tree or swelling upon a stem has to be examined for the cause, and if it prove to be the work of insects, must be put into the bag for examination. The only apparatus necessary for these expeditions is a bag slung over the shoulders and a stick with a hook on one end and a spike on the other; the bag acts as a large pocket, and saves the inconvenience of unbuttoning your coat, when, perhaps, the thermometer is below zero. The hook on the stick is useful for pulling down boughs or pulling yourself out of a hole; the spike for prying off pieces of bark or digging into old stumps.

Objects of great interest, some of which can be better collected, and from which the insects can be more successfully bred when collected in the winter time, are the various kinds of plant galls. These require little trouble, all that is necessary is to put them away in glass jars and keep them closed. After a time the occupants begin to emerge, and to the surprise of the uninitiated, although each kind is made by only one kind of insect, from the galls will be produced perhaps half a dozen distinct species. These are most of them parasites upon the gall-maker, or what are known as inquilines or guest flies. The gall-maker produces the gall upon the plants. In this gall some of these guest flies deposit their eggs, and the young grubs feed upon the substance of the gall, or others again live as parasites, either upon the grubs of the gall-makers or their guests. Watching these as they emerge and making notes upon them, will be found most entertaining at a time of the year when there is little active life out of doors. A further zest is added to this department of study from the fact that so little has been done in this line, that many of the flies so bred will be new to science.

Other places which may be visited in the winter, are groves of evergreens where much will be found to repay the collector. Amongst the leaves of the pines are cases of larvæ, and in the leaves themselves are the burrows of the caterpillar of a tiny moth. Beneath the bark are numerous scolytid bark-borers, and from the solid wood beneath may be ex-