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## NITIDULA BIPUSTULATA IN A NEW ROLE.

BY G. H. FRENCH, CARBONDALE, ILL.

One day last summer I received a letter from a physician in a town near Carbondale, stating that one of his patients had voided some live beetles, and asking me if I cared to see them. Assuring him that I did, he sent me several specimens of the species above mentioned. Not having this species in our collection, one of them was sent to Dr. F. M. Webster, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, who identified it for me, but doubted its being an intestinal parasite.

Briefly stated, the history of the case is as follows: The man came to the doctor several days before his writing to me, stating that he had found the insects in his excreta. The doctor told him they must have come from the ground on which he had voided the excreta; and he further advised him to use a clean chamber next time. The next day the man came back to the doctor with a lot of the beetles, stating that he had done as directed, and that he passed as many as a tablespoonful of the beetles.

On talking with the doctor a few days ago, I find that the man has been voiding these beetles for some time, and that six years ago his son passed quantities of the same beetles. The son has since died of typhoid fever. The boy told his father about his passing them, and this led the latter to notice his own exèreta. The beetles were voided alive, but soon died after crawling a little way from the excreta.

This is the first instance I have known, either from personal observation or from the literature, of adult insects being voided from the enteric canal of either a man or a related mammal.

<sup>(</sup>m) Kholodkovsky places this with 54.

<sup>(</sup>n) Spelt Ceratovacunna both in Zool. Record and Bericht der Entom., both of which give incorrect reference.