

In from seven to twenty-five minutes the birth is accomplished, and you have before you a perfect counterpart of the parent, quickly swimming free and ready for a meal. At birth the insect is about five mm. long by two and a half mm. broad, of the purest white, rapidly changing to light straw-yellow and brown, and in two or three hours at most they are the same colour as the parent, and if prey be not abundant, very likely feasting on their younger brothers and sisters. This latter trait is evidently an hereditary one, because the parent very often makes a meal off his own offspring.

I noticed one peculiar thing in regard to the birth of these insects, and that was, when the birth was forcibly terminated by my assistance they were not properly vivified. They would lie for many minutes apparently half dead, whereas those that were maturely born were lively and perfectly vivified. Nature's ways are marvellous, and the birth of an insect is just as elaborately provided for as that of the higher animals.

These creatures disdain nothing in the food line that they can handle, either dead or alive. They often come to the surface for floating insects, worms, caterpillars, moths, butterflies, dragon-flies, grasshoppers, crickets, etc., etc., and after extracting all the nourishing properties by suction, cast the empty skin aside.

Their migrations are performed after night, as is the habit of the so-called "electric-light bug."

So far I have discovered but two species of this insect, one inhabiting the warmer zones of California and countries further south, and which I have described in this article, and a smaller variety that inhabits the warm springs of Northern California, and which is hardly half the size of the one here reported.

PREOCCUPIED NAMES OF BEES.

Through the kindness of Prof. Cockerell I have learned that two names recently used by me are preoccupied, and therefore propose the following:

Centris Costaricensis, n. n., for *C. Friesei*, Cwfd., in Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., XXXII, 158.

Halictus glabriventris, n. n., for *H. Vachali*, Cwfd., in CAN. ENT., XXXVIII, 300.
J. C. CRAWFORD, Dallas, Texas.