

which can be easily and cheaply made as follows: A light wooden box about 9 in. by 7 in. may be had at any drug store; the bottom is knocked off and replaced with a piece of wire-web of four meshes to the linear inch; the sides must be cut down with a fine saw to a depth of three inches, and strips about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide nailed along the sides beneath the wire to keep it from touching the table. 2. A sable or camel hair pencil of the size known as duck quill, on a wooden handle. 3. A pair of flexible tweezers with fine points. 4. A small palette knife, the use of which is when a small insect is covered up among the dust and debris of the moss, to take up a portion and scatter it on a bare place on the paper, when the beetle will become accessible. 5. A hand or pocket magnifier. 6. Two cyanide bottles, without saw dust. 7. A basket or box to receive the spent moss.

The operator will place the sieve upon a sheet of strong white paper,—cartridge paper is best,—and taking up a moderate handful of moss, tease and shake it well over the wire; he will then lift the sieve, giving a couple of smart taps on the end to dislodge any clinging insect—and look out for the “bugs.” The Carabidæ and Staphylinidæ will first run at racing pace over the paper; the Pselaphidæ and Scydmaenidæ will progress more deliberately, though still pretty rapidly, in a steady, straight-forward march, with their prominent antennæ stretched out before them, while the Trichopterygidæ will circle about, like the Gyrini upon the surface of a still pool, at an astonishing speed for such molecules of beetles. The larger insects may be captured with the fingers or the forceps; the smaller ones by moistening the brush between the lips and touching them with the point, to which they will adhere; the brush with the insect attached is introduced through the neck of the bottle, when a slight fillip with the fingers will dislodge the captive. In the meantime the Curculios, Chrysomelas, Tenebrios, etc., will recover from the shock, and betray their presence in their own slow, deliberate manner, when they too can be secured. Along with the beetles there will be seen numerous spiders, ants, mites, poduras, etc., and now and then a few small Diptera and Hymenoptera.

To display the smaller captured beetles to the best advantage, they should be suffered to remain twenty-four hours in the bottle, when the cyanogen vapor will have caused their limbs to be limber and relaxed. They may then be attached to a strip of card-board by a small portion of mucilage, previously thickened by evaporation till it will not spread out