

when the insect is emitting the flashes of light it moves these segments and so reveals more of the light.

Mr. Martin stated that he had observed a Fire-fly in a spider's web, and that it emitted very rapid flashes of light at first, but that they gradually diminished in brilliance till at length they died out.

On motion the meeting then adjourned till 8 o'clock p. m.

TUESDAY EVENING SESSION.

At 8 o'clock the Entomological Club met at the Hotel Vendôme, Dr. J. G. Morris in the chair.

Mr. H. F. Bassett, of Waterbury, Conn., gave an account of "the Structure and Development of certain Hymenopterous Galls." He exhibited specimens of galls produced on plants and trees, and spoke of the alternation of two forms belonging to one species. The seminator deposits its eggs in the young acorn, and from the sting or puncture the gall grows, having the appearance of another acorn. This falls to the ground in September, and remains twenty-one months, at the end of which time the gall-flies are produced, which are all females. These females lay their eggs in the buds of the trees in the spring, and from these galls are formed, out of which are developed flies of both sexes. All galls may be divided into two classes:—First, those formed in autumn, which do not develop till the next or a succeeding year, the imagos or perfect insects hatched from them being always females; and secondly, those formed in the spring, the progeny of which are of both sexes. He considered that the woolly substance that covers these galls is an excessive development of the pubescence of the leaf, and thought that the growth of the galls is produced by the action of the poison that is infused by the parent insect when making the sting or puncture, because he often could find in a gall no trace of any larva.

Prof. Riley expressed his opinion that galls are formed both by the poison injected with the egg, and by the irritant action of the larva. He spoke also of the sweet exudation on galls, and remarked that honey-dew is in some cases the natural exudation of the plant independent of the action of insects upon it.

Prof. C. H. Fernald, of Orono, Me., exhibited three volumes recently published by Lord Walsingham on "North American Micro-Lepidoptera, Tortricidæ," illustrated with colored plates, and forming part of the British Museum Catalogues for 1879; also by the same author a volume on the "New and little-known species of North American Tineidæ," and another