

inclined to believe that when the life-history is fully worked out they will be found to number five, which, so far as I am aware, appears to be the usual number in Heteroptera, although there are certain exceptions to this rule. Mention is also made of the absence of a distinctive coloration of the nymphs immediately after moults, a fact easily observable in many Hemipterous nymphs. The plate (IV) for this species shows three figures of the egg, the nymph just hatched and the 2nd, 3rd and "penultimate" (4th?), instars of *C. Stollii* and the last-mentioned instar of another species. Two figures of the adult are given, one from above and the other from the side, the latter showing the bug in the natural standing position. In regard to the nymph, the explanation of the plate calls fig. 6 "penultimate instar," while the text calls it "final nymph," which latter it certainly is. To avoid confusion, it seems to me the plate should have termed it "last nymphal instar," which would have been perfectly unambiguous.

*Ripartus linearis* is treated of with equal succinctness. The bug is vegetarian, and feeds on the seed-pods of various *Leguminosæ*. The cauldron-shaped dark bronzy-brown, sometimes pruinose ova, are deposited irregularly on the stems and leaves of the food-plant. One batch of 11 deposited on September 30th was observed, which gave adults on October 23rd following, which is to say, in 23 days, a remarkably short developmental period for Heteroptera, to be explained by the favourable conditions of heat and moisture, since it would appear that the period of abundance of the insect is the wet season. In our Northern latitudes these changes take longer, although it should be noted that certain *microvelia* are equally rapid in their transformations in the immediate vicinity of New York. The changes in nymphal colouration of *Riptortus* are noted, and also its resemblance in all nymphal instars to ants. In this it is like our common northern *Alydus curinus*, the blackish nymphs of which very strongly simulate our large black *Camponotus Pennsylvanicus*, and are very often taken with it in clover patches in fields. Whether this resemblance is protective or not would be very hard to say, as the authors remark in regard to *Riptortus*. The number of moults is given as four, with the corresponding number of nymphal instars. It might seem, perhaps, that some moult has passed unnoticed, possibly the first one, because the cast skins are then very diaphanous and fragile. I know *positively* of only one Heteropteron with only four nymphal instars, and this I have bred a number of times to ascertain beyond doubt that it was an actual fact, and not a mere error of observation.