

as an up-to-date spraying machine, but without result. I then drew close to the trunk of the tree, and on the jutting spike of a dead branch appeared another *Hoplosia nubila*. I had seldom found anything of much account on dry wood, but I recalled the book statement that this insect bred in dead limbs of basswood. Half the tree spread out on the meadow side of the low stone rampart, so I made to enter the field; on the upper end of a picket and again on the top rail of the fence I met—apparently, like me, getting over the wall—three more specimens of *Hoplosia nubila*.

Where had they come from? Had they dropped from the green foliage above, or emerged from a dry branch under the tree? I noticed now for the first time a large, dead limb lying along the bank of field stone—a windfall of several years ago—rotting, but fortunately not sodden from contact with the earth; the end away from the butt had one or two boughs still armed with broken branches, and one of these rose at an angle and was partly supported on the second rail of the fence right at the picket. Only an enthusiastic collector knows how my mouth watered and my heart danced when I looked closely at the picket and the branch here on the sunny side of the fence: resting on their surface, within easy reach, I counted 7 specimens of *Hoplosia nubila*. By the time I turned reluctantly away to join the hoeing-bee at lunch, I had captured 17.

As soon as lunch was over some of the men scattered to look for bait, hoping to catch a bass or two before revisiting the kitchen-garden. I, too, set out to look for bait, but as soon as I rounded the corner I dived into the friendly shelter of the cedars and made a bee-line for the basswood. The sun had almost given my recruiting ground the slip, but I succeeded in capturing 8 more specimens about the dead limb and the picket fence; and on visiting some trees further along the ridge I captured 2 more.

To test out the insect's habits and season I made it a point during the next few days to visit all the basswoods newly felled or dead that I could think of in the neighbourhood; on July 3rd I examined some newly felled basswood at Nassau and succeeded in capturing 3 specimens of *Hoplosia*, apparently attracted to the dying trees either to breed or to oviposit on the branches; and a few days later I took 5 on some windfalls and one on a lopped