

except the last two (and very probably they also occur) are given by Sharp from the Amazon region in South America (Sharp, Staphylinidæ of the Amazon, Trans. London Ent. Soc., 1876, Parts I. and II., May and June), while *Philonthus* and *Xantholinus* are found also in New Zealand.

NATURAL HISTORY NOTES ON CERTAIN COLEOPTERA.

No. I.

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Ceophyllus monilis Lec. Several of these curious little coleopters were taken May 11th, from a colony of ants inhabiting under a flat stone. This ant is honey yellow, .18 inch in length, very sluggish in its movements, and not disposed to be vicious; it seems to be the same as that with which *Batrisus bistriatus* is found (also in May), and is perhaps *Lasius integerrimus*, Mayr., which Mr. E. A. Schwarz thinks is the name of the ant with which on several occasions he found the same beetle in Michigan in early spring.

The beetles were on the under side of the stone distributed among the ants, and taking alarm immediately on its being overturned, scampered off so quickly into the underground galleries that only a few could be captured.

Dr. Leconte founded the genus on a single specimen taken in Michigan, in August, under the bark of the American linden; his specimen was only .11 inch in length, while these measure .16; otherwise his description applies, or from the different habitat another species might be inferred. Does *C. monilis* desert the ants in the spring to breed beneath bark during the summer and its offspring resort to the habitations of these ants to spend the winter? It is on many lists, but, except in the instance mentioned, has any one taken it elsewhere than with these insects? There are a considerable number of beetles found in friendly association with ants, especially in the spring, many of which are not recorded as having been observed elsewhere; but where their larval lives are spent is something entirely unknown. Some of them, in the spring, leave their friends, like *Cremastochilus canaliculatus*, which may be observed from May till August alighting during the hottest sunshine on warm stones and dusty roads; but whether all likewise leave is uncertain. The suggestion