

suppose that they are. It seems to be almost a general feeder, as it is not confined to any particular order of plants for its food, though in this locality it seems to confine its ravages mostly to CRUCIFERÆ. They will congregate on the plant as long as there is room for one of them, and continue sucking the life-supporting juices, which soon causes the plant to wilt and die. They are very active, and, when disturbed, swarm like so many gnats, which they more resemble, when flying, than anything else. In the morning, while the dew is on the plants, they are found concealed in the shriveled up leaves, and are rather sluggish; and by plucking these and putting them into an old tin pail, with live coals of fire at the bottom, many of them may be destroyed. Lime has been tried to a slight extent, but seemingly without effect. We have not discovered either the eggs or the young, yet like their cousin, the chinch bug, wet weather is unfavorable to their production, and after a heavy rain it will be difficult to find many of them for several days. We give herewith the first description of this insect, to our knowledge, that has been written. The specific name, *raphanus*, was given it from its food plant, the radish, upon which we first noticed it. It belongs to the sub-order *Heteroptera*; and, like most insects of that order, is not by any means destitute of that unpleasant "bed buggy" smell. We hope by the end of the season to be able to procure the eggs and young, and to be able to write a more complete history.

NOTE ON *HESPERIA COMMUNIS*, Grote.—This species, which is described as *Syrictus communis* on page 69 of this volume, is identical with Mr. Scudder's *Hesperia tessellata*, described in the Fourth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Peabody Academy of Science, Salem, 1872. As I learn from Mr. Edwards and Mr. Scudder, my description was written in 1871 and published in April, 1872. Mr. Scudder's paper, in which his description of this species occurs, was, according to page 1 of the Report, "read, accepted and ordered to be printed," Jan. 13th, 1872. I do not know the exact date of the issue of the Report from the press. A similarity of name with that proposed by Mr. Scudder, in an European species (*H. tessellum*) might assist in according a preference to the name I have proposed as above for our American species.—A. R. GROTE.

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