

veloped females, and that the honey-bearers are a changed form of the worker major with a greatly enlarged crop, in which they store the honey. Mr. McCook has not yet committed his observations to writing, but, we understand, that he will eventually publish them in the proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia. It is impossible to give here even a synopsis of the vast amount of information that he afforded upon this interesting subject.

Prof. Riley remarked, in connection with this subject, that many galls secrete saccharine matter, and that sometimes the gall-insects themselves are entrapped in it; that the ants probably get their honey also from the species of *Coccus* that frequents the scrub-oaks of Colorado; and that almost all species of ants are able to expand their abdomens when necessary.

Dr. Haldeman observed that the reason why hills were constructed by some ants and not by others was probably because some might have the proper materials conveniently at hand and others not. He urged Entomologists to domesticate ants in order to study their habits, most of which are as yet very imperfectly known.

Mr. Bassett stated that very many species of galls are infested by ants; that he has observed a gall on scrub-oak swarming with ants, and with *Cetonia Inda* and other honey-loving insects.

Dr. John L. LeConte, of Philadelphia, Pa., read a paper on a collection of Coleoptera obtained from a few hickory twigs. Some hickory trees on a friend's estate, nere Philadelphia, were observed to be diseased and therefore cut down. Some of the twigs were sent to him, and from them he obtained no less than twenty-two species of Coleoptera. He expressed a strong hope that some competent Entomologist should prepare a list of the insects that infest forest trees, and that it should be appended to the report about to be issued by the U. S. Commission on Forestry.

Dr. Morris stated that he also had obtained a considerable number of species of beetles from twigs.

Mr. Haldeman said that the hickory was more infested with insects than any other tree.

Dr. LeConte next read a paper on the so-called "Lightning Bugs" (*Lampyridæ*):—

Mr. Austin remarked that when a fire-fly is at rest there is a faint ray of light visible, proceeding from the edge of the segments of the abdomen;