

several other species of insects have also been credited with. The duration of their life as larvæ has not yet been ascertained, but when full grown they transform within their burrows in a light cocoon composed of silk and sawdust. The perfect insects are generally clad in liveries composed of black, blue-black, white and different shades of yellow, and a description of the largest and most frequently observed of the few species inhabiting Canada will give a good idea of the others. It has received the name of *Tremex columba*, or the Pigeon Tremex, the latter word meaning a maker of holes. Under the name of *Sirex columba* (given by Linnaeus) this insect was figured and described by De Geer as much resembling *Sirex gigas*, except that it was smaller, being only one inch long, while the other was an inch and two lines. But his must have been an under-sized specimen, for I have found their ordinary length to be one and a quarter inches, while some attain to over an inch and a half. The cylindrical body of the female is long and stout, the extremity being rounded and terminated by the usual short tail, which is yellow; the body itself is black with transverse bands (several broken) of yellow. The head, thorax and antennæ are rust-yellow, with black markings; the legs a light ochre-yellow with blackish thighs. The borer is black and its sheath rust-yellow. The smoky wings expand about two inches. The male is very much smaller and of different shape, the abdomen being more flattened, while as it is without any borer, it might easily be mistaken for another species of insect.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

We are pained to announce the death of one of our active members in the Worcester Natural History Society, Otto R. Gunther, who died suddenly, Feb'y 27, of hemorrhage, at the age of 23. He was interested in many branches of Natural History, particularly that of Entomology, of which department he was Curator. Born of German parents, and inheriting from his father a love for study, and especially the study of Entomology, he had for several years past devoted his leisure hours, both early and late, in this direction. His attention was chiefly directed to Coleoptera, and by his industry in collecting, together with his many exchanges, he has left a valuable collection of well-determined species. He was a congenial companion, exemplary, thorough and systematic in his favorite study, giving promise, if he had lived, of being a prominent co-worker in this branch of science.

T. A. D., Worcester, Mass.