

## Correspondence.

NOTICE.—Papers on the Nuthatch, the Brown Creeper and the Wrens, are shortly to appear, and as it is desired to make this journal a corresponding medium, all who have any special observations to record concerning these, or species already described, or questions to ask, should do so at once, that their questions may be answered in the next number of the magazine. Original observations of song, nest, eggs or habits of any of these will be gladly received and incorporated and duly accredited to the correspondent.

ERNEST E. T. SETON.

## Answer to Correspondence in October Monthly.

The "Snow-flea," which we have observed Jan-March, is a black Spring-tail (*Proctura*). It belongs to the sub-class Ametabola, the insects of which—like the Louse—are without wings or transformation. The perfect insects are produced directly from the eggs.

We have seen them in numbers in summer, though they are much more noticeable when they appear on the snow. They will be most frequently noticed in the shelter of groves.

The "rough caterpillar" observed travelling on the snow in March is the caterpillar of the moth *Arctia Isabella*. It will be found most abundantly the first week of October. Some few of the late ones do not transform, but hibernate over winter, and may come out any mild spell. In the same way the butterfly *Vanessa Antiopa* hibernates, and will sometimes startle us by floating its gay wings on a sunny hour in February.

F. B.

## Literary Notices.

PART II, GAMOPETALAE of Canada by John Macoun, M. A., F.L.S. F. R. S. C., Botanist to the Geological and Natural Survey of Canada has appeared. Prof. Macoun has laid a very solid foundation already for the transmission of his name to posterity as a great botanical worker. *Semper floreat.*

The MICROSCOPE, an illustrated monthly journal, is edited and published at Ann Arbor, Michigan, by Chas. H. Stowell, M. D., F. R. M. S., Professor of Microscopy and Histology, University of Michigan, and Louisa Reed Stowell, M. S., F. R. M. S., Assistant in Microscopical Botany in the same University. It contains 24 pages of the most interesting and valuable material to the microscopist, and costs only one dollar. The microscopical works of the editors have made them well-known in the old as well as the new world, and have recently won deserved recognition from the Royal Microscopical Society which has elected them fellows