

ARZAMA OBLIQUATA.

Dear Sir: On reading Mr. Kellicott's communication in CAN. ENT. for February, 1889, I learn that his observations concerning the habits of *Arzama obliquata* G. & R. larvæ, do not agree with mine. Up to the 26th of January of the present year I held the same opinion as he does, and I was not a little bit surprised on hearing of its being a winter feeder. Requiring some lining for a few packing boxes which I was preparing to send by mail, I had occasion to go to the marsh for some stalks (commonly known as rushes, but by botanists, I suppose, as *Typha*), which make a convenient substitute for cork. The very first stalk that I cut showed that larvæ had been at work. This at once brought to my mind the recent communications of which Mr. Kellicott writes, so I began an investigation and was much surprised at the result. Besides a number of empty pupæ and a mature larva (which I always find in the form of a loop, with one end shorter than the other) at rest for the winter, down in the thick part of the stalk, I found three immature larvæ at full length up in the small part and surrounded by evidence of recent feeding. During my nine or ten years of collecting, I have raised both *Arzama obliquata* and *diffusa* from mature larvæ found on shore in old wood and other rubbish, mostly every year. Some I have found as early as November 3rd, and others in every month until May. Having always found them pretty plentiful on shore, I was of the opinion that it was their habit always to come there to transform, but my observations on the above date convince me that those I had hitherto found were only wanderers, while the main body remain at home to undergo their transformation. As for their being single brooded here I agree with him. I have found two or three moths late in July, but those I should say came from larvæ which passed the winter in the immature state, rather than from eggs laid that season.

March 9th, 1889.

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NOTES.

We are glad to learn that Mr. John B. Smith, of the National Museum, Washington, has been appointed State Entomologist of New Jersey. He will enter upon his new duties on the first of April, and will reside at New Brunswick, N. J. While we congratulate the State upon securing the