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Saw-flies on Solomon's Seal

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He proposes to retain the name for the forms called *Anthracomya*, affirming as this word does an altogether wrong affinity for the genus. (The name *Naiadites* was proposed in 1860; *Anthracomya* in 1861.)

Dr. Hind is not able to state that any of the species submitted to him by Sir J. W. Dawson are the same as British forms. The shell originally described as *Naiadites carbonaria* is, he has no doubt, an *Anthracopectera*. He gives notes on *N. arenaria*, *N. angulata*, and *N. lævis*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Saw-flies on Solomon's Seal. By W. F. KIRBY, F.L.S. &c.

FOR two years past plants of Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum* or *Convallaria multiflora*) growing in Dr. Günther's garden at Kew have been infested by saw-fly larvæ; and on the 6th of May of the present year Dr. Günther captured a considerable number of specimens of a saw-fly on the plant, which proved on examination to be *Phymatocera aterrima*, Klug. Although this species will probably be found to be common where its food-plant occurs, it does not seem to have been noticed in England except by Curtis, who described and figured it in vol. xxi. of the 'Transactions of the Linnean Society,' pp. 39-42, pl. v., as long ago as 1850, from specimens bred from larvæ received from Lord Goderich, who had noticed them for several years previously devouring the leaves of the only plant of Solomon's Seal in Lord Ripon's garden at Putney. Curtis called the insect *Selandria Robinsoni*, believing it to be undescribed.

The only other saw-fly noticed by Kaltenbach in his 'Pflanzenfeinde' as feeding on *Convallaria multiflora* is *Blennocampa fuliginosa*, Schrank.

It is worthy of note that all the specimens of *P. aterrima* which Dr. Günther caught were males, which, it seems, appear a day or two before the females begin to emerge. With them was a single specimen of a *Blennocampa*, also a male—not, however, *B. fuliginosa*, but *B. fuscula*, Klug (= *pusilla*, Klug), a rose-feeding species, the presence of which among the specimens of *Phymatocera* was probably quite accidental.

As *Phymatocera aterrima* has been so rarely observed in England, it appears worth while to call attention to its re-occurrence. There were previously only two German specimens in the British Museum collection, and no British ones.

Although the day was warm and bright, the specimens were remarkably sluggish, and allowed themselves to be picked off with the fingers.

Natural History Museum, South Kensington,
May 9 1894.