

acquires the black spots and the deep red color, with which its elytra are ornamented. A species of brown ant appears to prey on it, as I saw several larvæ and soft imagines being dragged away by these ants. The habits of the adult differ somewhat from *M. heros* and *fasciata*, in that *Meg. Ulkei* lives more inside the fungus and is less inclined to drop to the ground when the fungus is jarred.

Habitat—Campbell Co., Ky. ; July, 1878.

*Bothrideres (Machlotes) exavatus* Mels., and *gemminatus* Say.

These two species were found under and in the bark of an old elm tree, and were from the ground up 26 feet. They vary much in size. The larva constructs a very curious semi-transparent cocoon, flat on one side and convex on the other, and generally several joined together in a cluster. On emerging the imago is very light, but soon hardens and gets quite dark-brown colored.

Campbell Co., Ky. ; July, 1878.

*Omophron robustum* Horn.

This species is described by Dr. Horn from specimens from Nova Scotia, and I believe Mr. Shwartz took a specimen or specimens on Lake Superior. In company with *Om. americanum* Dej. and *tessellatum* Say *robustum* was secured. While these species preferred sloping sandy banks near the water, many were taken on mud banks. On deluging the bank with water, it was amusing to see them rush out and up the bank.

Ham Co., Ohio ; July, 1878.

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#### A FEW HINTS ON COLLECTING LARVÆ OF DARAPSA VERSICOLOR.

BY ROBERT BUNKER, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

For several years past I have searched carefully for larvæ of this species, only to be rewarded with damaged wardrobe and wet feet. This season I determined to try the plan of breaking off the button-bush branches and shaking them over paper spread on the ground. On my

first trial I secured one nearly full-grown larva of *versicolor*, and six half-grown larvæ of *promethea*. Unfortunately I was unable to visit the bushes again until it was too late. The advantages this method has over that of examining the bushes while standing are manifold. In the first place, four times as many branches can be examined in the same length of time. Secondly, not a larva, great or small, can escape observation. Last, and not least, eggs may be detected, because, as is well known, insects generally lay their eggs on the under side of the leaf or on the stem. Another advantage to the collector is that the wood of this shrub is very brittle, and fifty branches can be broken off in a few minutes.

I observed one characteristic not mentioned by Geo. D. Hulst in his description of *D. versicolor*. In moving from one branch to another it feels its way step by step, stretching out the thoracic part of its body three times its ordinary length, and then suddenly drawing back, repeating the same several times before venturing forward, reminding me strongly of the manœuvring of a large tropical basket-worm I once had the pleasure of rearing. As many of the branches of the button-bush hang directly over the water, the larva seems to know by instinct that a fall would be fatal, and no doubt (as Mr. H. Strecker has suggested) many of them are lost in this way.

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A REMARKABLE ENTOMOLOGICAL COLLECTION.—Some details have reached us concerning a large collection in Entomology made by Henry Edwards, of San Francisco, during the last 25 years. Professor Davidson, President of the Academy of Sciences, states that this collection of insects is one of the largest ever made in the United States, and by far the most complete ever made on the Pacific coast. It consists of about 60,000 species, comprising more than 200,000 specimens. These include not only all the orders on the Pacific coast, but nearly or quite all in the United States, with a large representation of orders from all parts of the world. The collection is said to be really one of the most complete known in any country. It is valued at \$12,000, or rather, that is about the sum expended in freights, cabinets and the purchase of rare specimens. The labor of 25 years is not estimated.—*Times (London, Eng.)*