larva, which he picked up during a short visit of the *Corwin* to Wrangell island. As the officers of the *Corwin* were the first persons ever known to have landed upon this island, it is probable that these are the first insects from that locality, and it may therefore be interesting to note that the spider has been identified by Mr. Geo. Marx, of the Department of Agriculture, as "an undescribed species of *Erigone*," the larva being probably lepidopterous, but in too poor condition for determination.—*J. H. Kidder, Washington, February 6th, 1882.*

LICHTENSTEIN'S THEORY AS TO DIMORPHIC, ASEXUAL FEMALES.—The translation into French by our friend, M. Jules Lichtenstein, of Dr. Adler's renowned paper on Dimorphism in Cynipidæ will be very welcome to all those who do not understand the German language, especially as the original and admirable plates are reproduced. We have already noticed Adler's discoveries. In the preface to the translation which Lichtenstein gives, is a very amusing illustration of the insufficient and misleading nature of his theory regarding the evolution of the Aphididæ, where he insists on calling the winged females *larvæ*, and their eggs *pupæ*, since he carries the analogy into the Cynipidæ, and would call the asexual females larvæ. He draws what he conceives to be proof of the correctness of his theory from the hypermetamorphoses of the Meloidæ, designating the coarctate larva as a pupa and implying that it shows the eyes, legs and jaws of the perfect insect, and yet produces instead of a perfect insect a larva like that from which it was formed. The error in this comparison lies in calling the fourth larval stage the pupa, when it has nothing to do with the pupa, but is simply a quiescent larva indicating none of the members of the perfect insect. It is in fact, as we have called it, a *coarctate larva*, and the eyes, legs and jaws represent those of the larva and have simply become rigid, whereas those of the perfect insect, as subsequently foreshadowed in the true pupa, have a quiet different aspect, and we fail to see how this coarctate larva form can be compared with an asexual female Cynips any more than with a female of the bisexual generation. The translator's work is admirably done and he adds an instructive catalogue of the known species of Cynipidæ at the end.—*C. V. Riley.*

NAPHTHALINE CONES FOR THE PROTECTION OF INSECT COLLECTIONS.—Mr. C. A. Blake, of Philadelphia, has been preparing cones of naphthaline run around a pin so that they may be stuck into a box with insects and that the naphthaline may permeate the box and last for a considerable time. They are made after a formula recommended by Drs. LeConte and Horn, and are very convenient to handle. They gave such promise of usefulness that we obtained quite a lot of them and went to the trouble of supplying all our insect boxes with the same. We have speedily