

of equal width throughout, though much narrower than the main gallery, and are presumably made by the larvæ.

Mr. Schwarz further spoke on a large colony of *Xyleborus pubescens* which he found in March near Washington in the solid wood of *Pinus inops*. The tree was dead, and of the hundreds of beetles contained therein not one was alive. The beetles had honey-combed the solid wood in all directions, thus obscuring and obliterating the work of the parent beetles and their larvæ. That the beetles were all dead appears to be a significant fact as throwing some light upon one of the means employed by nature to prevent excessive multiplication of these Scolytids. It appears that, during the development of this large brood, the wood of the tree had become dry and shrunken, so as to prevent the perfect beetles from issuing from the entrance hole made by the parent beetle. Among the numerous specimens cut out from the wood there were a few specimens of the hitherto unknown male of the *Xyleborus*, which strikingly differs from the female.*

Mr. Schwarz also called attention to the fact that the *Tomicus xylographus* Say of Fitch's Fourth Report cannot be Say's species, but must, in all probability, be referred to *Xyleborus cætatus*; and, finally, that *Xyleborus obesus* Lec. is, in all probability, the male of *X. pyri*.

Mr. Smith called attention to some features in the structure of the *Saturniidae*. The family, as he proposes to limit it, has two branches to each antennal joint in the ♂; no tongue, retracted head, short palpi; plump body, hind legs short and weak, tibiæ without spurs, tarsi without spines, no frenulum, veins not more than 11, usually 10, sometimes only 9. The *Attacinae* have the antennæ pectinated to the tip in both sexes. Except in *Telea* and *Actias* the discal cell of both wings is open. He considers that *Samia*, *Platysamia*, *Philosamia*, and *Callosamia* are all congeneric, and explained the differences and agreements between them. *Telea* seems congeneric with some of the European species referred to *Saturnia*. In *Hyperchiria io* the antennæ are as in *Attacus*, but simple or only serrate in the ♀. In the *Ceratocampinae* the pectinations never extend to the tip; the ♀ has the antennæ simple, except in *Adelocephala bicolor*, in which they

* The male is described in *Entomolog. Americ.*, ii, p. 41.

are pectinated as in the ♂, except that there is only a single branch to each joint of the antennæ. The discal cells of primaries are always closed, and the difference in venation of the species was pointed out. The secondaries have the cell unusually short in this sub-family, and the relation to *Gastropacha* is evident.*

MAY 13, 1886.

Four persons present. President Howard in the chair.

The Corresponding Secretary read the following communication from Lieut. Casey, U. S. A. :

Agflenus brunneus Gyll.—A colony of about forty individuals of this common European species was taken on the 26th of December last in the suburbs of San Francisco. The specimens were closely crowded together on the underside of a board which had long been imbedded in a thick, grassy turf. In the United States it has thus far only been recorded from St. Louis, Mo. (Horn.—Proc. Am. Phil. Soc., xvii, p. 577).

I have very little doubt of the identity of these specimens with the European insect, as they agree almost perfectly with Du Val's description. There is, however, a slight difference, which may be due to changed conditions of life or other similar cause. Du Val states that the European species has the prosternum "sillonné" [grooved.] This part, in the Californian representatives, is simply punctate, with scarcely any trace of grooves or furrows.

The Corresponding Secretary further read a letter from Capt. Shufeldt, U. S. A., regarding a misprint on page 8 in No. 1 of the Proceedings, Capt. Shufeldt's initials being R. W. and not E. A.

Dr. Marx then read the following paper :

NOTES ON PHRYNUS Oliv.

BY GEO. MARX, M. D.

On a former occasion, in speaking of *Thelyphonus* Latr., a member of the order *Pedipalpi*, and of the high place which this order must occupy in the class *Arachnoidea* on account of its advanced organization, I endeavored to demonstrate this latter theorem by pointing out the difference in insertion, as well as the change in structure, which the first pair of ambulatory organs have here assumed.

* For further particulars see Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1866, pp. 414-437.