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"Nature never hurries; atom by atom, little by little, she achieves her work."

EMERSON.



LONDON:

JOHN VAN VOORST, 1, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1881-82.

Mo. Mag., vol. xvii, p. 235; the following others, however, are perhaps worthy of mention:—*Trechus lapidosus*, of which I found two specimens after a great deal of labour, the species certainly deserving its name. *Oxygoda nigrina*, Waterhouse (this last I have since found in some numbers in my hot-bed in Lincoln), *Diglossa mersa*, *Phytosus spinifer*, a *Myllæna*, which seems to be *intermedia*, but appears to have rather longer antennæ than that species, *Tachyusa uvida* (very abundant among shingle below high-water mark), *T. sulcata*, *Bryaxis Waterhousii*, *Ptenidium punctatum* (rather common under sea-weed), and *Aleochara mazta*; this last species is said to be common, but I have never found it so. At Luccombe I found a colony of *Æpys marinus* under one stone, but could not find another specimen anywhere. At Sandown *Otiorynchus ambiguus* was rather common; *Tychius lineatulus* was abundant at the roots of *Anthyllis*, and *Ceuthorrhynchideus nigro-terminatus* rather common on *Daucus maritimus*; I found one very large *Curculio* larva at the roots of *Anthyllis*, evidently that of *Otiorynchus ligustici*, which is found on the spot where I came across it. I could not, however, find the perfect insect.

*Carabida*, owing probably to the lateness of the season, were scarcer than I have ever known them.—W. W. FOWLER, Lincoln: July 12th, 1881.

*Remarks on Dr. E. Joly's Cænis maxima.*—Mr. Vaysière in Ann. Sc. Nat., Zool., Jan., 1881, p. 4, note, pointed out a mistake made by me some time ago concerning the places of origin of the tracheal-branchiæ in *Cænis*, which had led me to suppose that their positions in *C. maxima* differed from those of the corresponding organs in *Cænis* (typical). I had previously sent a note to the Magazine (published in the last February number) stating that the examples of *C. maxima* originally examined by me were all of them defective [all of them had lost the foremost pair of tracheal-branchiæ] and “that (judging from specimens in a better condition of preservation) the species was likely to be a real *Cænis*.” To save space no particulars were entered into; I was aware of the gill-bearing segments being the same in the insect as in the genus mentioned, but was not sure whether their gills corresponded exactly in structure, or not. For although differences in this respect were obvious in the specimens of *Cænis* and *C. maxima* before me, it seemed quite possible that they might be due to a disparity in grade of the nymphs, and that the gills of more mature nymphs of *Cænis* might become conformable to those of *C. maxima*; but specimens lately captured show that no such change takes place. *C. maxima*, therefore, does not seem to be a true *Cænis*; yet it does not necessarily follow that it is a *Tricorythus*. It would be safer to face the fact that the nymph is of undetermined genus, closely akin to *Cænis*,—possibly a *Tricorythus*. My anxiety to avoid jumping to conclusions rather than reach them through the course of actual observation is (it seems) liable to be misinterpreted. The aim of the February note was not (as one correspondent imagined it to have been) to cancel *Tricorythus*, but to advocate a suspension of judgment about the generic position of *C. maxima*, pending further investigations. In the absence of evidence sufficient to demonstrate its true rank, little would be gained by citing it as *Tricorythus* (?) *maximus* instead of *Cænis maxima*, when twelve months hence it might be possible to prove that *Tricorythus* is as distinct from it as *Cænis*. Merely giving names to an animal inadequately known does not further science to any material extent, but is often a hindrance to progress.—A. E. EATON, Chepstow Road, Croydon: 6th July, 1881.