

vegetation, covers the spot so completely that few persons know of its existence. Here the "Kentucky Warbler" (*O. formosa*) and the "White-browed Warbler" (*D. dominica albilora*) find an unmolested nesting place. I have taken many rare insects of all orders here, particularly Coleoptera. May 11, 1900, while searching for minute beetles I lifted the loose bark from a freshly fallen oak log and found a colony of *Stenomimus pallidus* that contained hundreds of this beetle. I picked out 120 in a few minutes. I have never before taken this curious little weevil, which is one of the smallest North American species. It is very slender in form and of pale brown color and might easily be mistaken for *Bactridium*, which was associated with it. Its larvæ had eaten galleries through the decaying fibres of the inner bark—CHARLES DURY, Cincinnati, Ohio.

NEW LIGHT ON THE BEE-GENERA MEGACILISSA AND MACROTERA.—I have just received the following important information from Mr. W. F. Kirby of the British Museum: "*Megacilissa superba* Smith is a Chilian species, and = *Caupolicana fulvicollis* Spin. Mr. Waterhouse and I have carefully examined *Perdita halictoides* and *Macrotera bicolor* Smith, and find that Smith's drawings of the dissections are quite accurate; and that although Smith says the palpi of *Perdita* are wanting, and there is no trace of them in the specimen, yet they are included in his own figures, which is very odd. I find that *Macrotera* was obtained from Mr. E. P. Coffin in 1843, but I do not know from what part of Mexico. Perhaps this might be discovered by hunting through Westwood's publications."

This shows that *Megacilissa* is a pure synonym of *Caupolicana*, as was suggested in Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., Dec., 1899, p. 412.* It also confines the distinctness of *Macrotera* from *Macroteropsis* and *Hypomacrotera*. As for *Perdita*, Smith's figures of the palpi are drawn with dotted lines, and are undoubtedly hypothetical. Under the circumstances set forth in Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., Dec., 1899, p. 315, it is evident that we shall for the present have to remain wholly uncertain as to what is genuine *Perdita*.—T. D. A. COCKERELL, Mesilla Park, N. M., Feb. 2, 1900.

A BEE-FLY FOUR YEARS IN THE LARVAL STATE. IS THIS A RECORD?—In Volume I, Part 3, of the Proceedings of the Southern California Academy of Sciences may be found a short descriptive article on the habits and parasites of one of the most interesting bees of California, *Anthophora montana* Cress. Its interesting habit of tower building is there illustrated and need not be further commented upon. *Anthophora montana*, like many other species of mining bees, live in colonies, and may be found year after year occupying the same spot of ground. Each season the old shafts are cleaned out or new ones are sunk till the earth when turned over seems to be but a mass of clay cells of all ages.

On the 15th day of July, 1895, I unearthed a number of cells of *A. mon-*

* *Megacilissa yarrowi* Cresson, 1875, will become *Caupolicana yarrowi*; but *M. thoracica* Fox, and allied species, may have to be separated generically.