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ENTOMOLOGIST'S  
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"The classifications of the naturalist define abruptly where  
Nature more or less blends. Our systems are nothing if not definite."—

*Dr. Asa Gray.*

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1886-87.

*Notes on the oviposition and the duration of the egg-stage of Ephemerella ignita.*—A friend of mine (Mr. Hawksley) has succeeded in hatching eggs of the "Sherry Spinner" (♀ im.) or "Blue-winged Olive" (♀ subim.), as we call *Ephemerella ignita*. We took the eggs from an imago in July, and the first larva was hatched last week in his fernery.

The ♀ imago of *Ephemerella* carries its eggs differently from all other European May-flies. They issue part at a time, and take the form of a ball, adhering to the under-side of the extremity of her abdomen, and kept steady by means of her setæ, which are turned down underneath the ball. She flies about with the eggs in this position, while the mucus surrounding them hardens, dipping momentarily from time to time in her flight, and alighting now and then upon the water, until the ball becomes detached. This procedure is repeated until all of the eggs are discharged.

I have lately stated in the angling columns of "The Field" that one occasionally finds a subimago carrying the eggs, not in a ball but scattered, between the roots of the wings, on its back; and I have a single example of one not quite freed from the nymph-skin, which has the eggs so disposed.—FREDERIC M. HALFORD, 35, Inverness Terrace, Hyde Park, W.: *January 30th, 1887.*

*A hibernating Dragon-fly.*—Although the weather is very cold, I hunt—not Dragon-flies, but a Dragon-fly—*Sympycna fusca*. I took several specimens at the end of December, and a friend took one well on in January. I have just seen it in February. It is thus proved that in winters not exceptionally severe, *S. fusca* remains concealed in the heather, and comes out during the slightest sunshine.—RENÉ MARTIN, Le Blanc (Indre), France: *February 10th, 1887.*

[*S. fusca* (one of the *Agrionina*, allied to *Lestes*) is probably the only Dragon-fly known to hibernate. There is no apparent reason why it should not be found in this country, just as is the case with many others; but I think it may be safely said that it does not occur here.—R. MCLACHLAN.]

*Periplaneta australasiae, F., at Belfast.*—Early in 1886, Mr. Barrett sent me for determination several examples of this pretty (for a Cockroach) species that had been found, probably in a warehouse, at Belfast: it has already been noticed as occurring in several Continental ports. It is common in Central America, the West Indies, Brazil, &c. I am not aware that it is a common Australian insect, notwithstanding its specific name. Fabricius (Ent. Syst., ii, p. 7) simply says "*Capta frequens in nave e mari pacifico et regionibus Australasiæ revertente*," which, for a Cockroach, means nothing.—R. MCLACHLAN, Lewisham, London: *Dec. 8th, 1886.*

*Capture of Bradycellus collaris.*—Within the last three years, I have taken a few specimens of *Bradycellus collaris*, Payk., on the Pentland Hills. Its habits are the same as those of *B. similis*, with which it is found in company; but it cannot be said to occur commonly, as it is much scarcer, and more local in its distribution on the hills than *similis*, and requires hard work to find. The first year I found only two specimens; in 1885 I took ten at an elevation of about 1200 feet; and last year I found about two dozen at the much lower level of 700 or 800 feet.—R. F. LOGAN, Colinton, Midlothian: *February 8th, 1887.*