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## CONTENTS:

Townsend—New N. Am. Tachinidæ.....	129	Townsend—New Jamaica Tachinidæ....	146
Blatchley—Entomologizing in Mexico..	131	Banks—Atypidæ and Theraphosidæ.....	147
Bruce—Oncocnemis in Colorado.....	136	Coquillett—A new Dalmannia from Cal.	150
Fox—Notes on the Larradæ.....	138	Editorial.....	152
Wickham—Collecting in the far North.	139	Notes and News.....	154
Blaisdell—Notes on the Coccinellidæ... 143		Entomological Literature..	157
Williston—A n. sp. of Criorhinia.....	145	Doings of Societies.....	164

OUR illustration this month represents part of the life-history of *Datana ministra*. The plate was made from a photograph of a drawing found among the unpublished plates of the late T. R. Peale, of Philadelphia.

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## NEW NORTH AMERICAN TACHINIDÆ.

By C. H. TYLER TOWNSEND, Las Cruces, N. Mex.

(Continued from page 81, Vol. III, No. 4)

*Loewia globosa* n. sp. ♂.—Eyes cinnamon-brown, thickly short hairy, edges touching in front of ocelli; frontal vitta light brown, vertex blackish; anterior pair of ocellar bristles stronger than frontal bristles, directed strongly forward, decussate; sides of front, face and cheeks silvery-white; the præ-genal area very large, brownish, encroaching on sides of face and extending narrowly to bases of antennæ; sides of face with fringe of bristles; antennæ and arista brownish, second antennal joint orange rufous, third joint one and one-half times as long as second, more or less rufous on sides; proboscis about two-thirds high of head, slim, brownish, labella developed; palpi curved, thickened apically, brown, bristly; occiput blackish, black-hairy. Thorax and scutellum black, with a faint purplish shade, scutellum with an apical decussate and a lateral pair of macrochètæ. Abdomen shining greenish black, in some lights dark metallic-green; second segment with a median marginal pair and a weak lateral pair of macrochètæ; third with a stronger lateral pair and a median

locality given by officers of the steamer), and Metlakahtla or Port Chester, a large Indian settlement under direction of a missionary. At Hunter's Bay a few hours were spent with fair success, the same general character of country obtaining as in other places spoken of though some of the species of beetles were not found elsewhere. *Pterostichus castaneus*, *P. amethystinus*, *Epuræa truncatella*, a fine Byrrhide, *Pedilophorus acuminatus*, a Scydmenid of considerable size, and a number of *Xyloterus bivittatus* were seen. At Metlakahtla the rain again interfered, but a few other species were added to my list, among them *Pterostichus validus* and *Megapenthes stigmatosus*. All of the narrow coast strip as well as the islands which constitute southern Alaska consists of rocky and rugged hills with very little variety of soil or vegetation, so that an entomologist would hardly expect to find a great variety of species. Every spot seems, however, to yield something not found at others, and doubtless much that is new yet remains to be discovered. The difficulties of exploration have rendered anything more than a superficial examination out of the question, except in isolated localities, and the day is yet far distant when we shall be able to say that our knowledge of the Alaskan insect fauna approaches completeness.



### Notes on the COCCINELLIDÆ observed in San Diego Co., Cal.

By F. E. BLAISDELL, M.D.

*Anisosticta seriata* Melsh.—Plentiful in September. Occurring along the bay-shore in favorable localities. Large numbers are on the wing during warm sunny days; when at rest, clustered in the tops of small shrubs and in the ice-plant (*Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*).

*Megilla maculata* DeG.—Rare. Occurs in the eastern portion of the country, along the Colorado River.

*Megilla vittigera* Mann.—Quite plentiful in Summer on sedges along water courses.

*Hippodamia ambigua* Lec.—Common everywhere.

*Hippodamia convergens*.—Guér.—Abundant. Interbreeds with the preceding species; both congregating during the colder months of the year under bark on trees, and in the dead leaves

heaped about the bases of clumps of sycamores, where they can often be observed in immense numbers.

*Hippodamia parenthesis* Say.—Very rare. Occurs on squash vines at Poway. Identical with eastern examples in my collection.

*Coccinella 9-notata* Hbst.—Plentiful. Confined to the coast region; not observed in the interior—at least, fourteen years' collecting has failed to discover it at Poway (fourteen miles from coast, elevation 700 feet) and higher altitudes.

*Coccinella californica* Mann.—Very common. This species, besides being aphidivorous, feeds upon the buds of the wild sunflower (*Helianthus californica*). Interbreeds with the preceding species.

*Coccinella sanguinea* Linn.—Plentiful throughout the county.

*Coccinella abdominalis* Say.—Not common. Frequents citrus groves, loco-weed (*Astragalus leucopsis*), and pig-weeds (*Chenopodium*).

*Psyllobora tædata* Lec.—Plentiful on plants along water courses and in vineyards. Have observed them feeding upon a small aphid infesting the under surface of the grape leaf, where the beetle was also noticed in all stages of development.

*Chilocorus cacti* Linn.—Quite abundant in certain localities upon *Agave americana*, *Astragalus leucopsis*, and citrus and olive trees infested with the Black Scale.

*Exochomus pilatei* Muls.—Rare. Occasionally taken with the preceding species on *Astragalus leucopsis*.

*Exochomus marginipennis* Lec.—Moderately common on different flowering shrubs, especially *Prunus demissus*.

*Scymnus lophanthæ*\* Blais.—Vortriede's Ladybird is not widely distributed, occurring mostly on the Coronadian peninsula. In color, the elytra are a shining black, with a feeble purpurescent lustre, and not *strongly metallic* as stated in my description in ENT. NEWS, March number p. 51. Post-coxal arcs distinct in outline, semi-circular; outer margin feebly concave, terminating at apex of metathoracic episternum.

*Scymnus marginicollis* Mann.—Plentiful everywhere.

Several undetermined species of *Brachyacantha*, *Hyperaspis* and *Scymnus*.

\* We are informed by the Agricultural Department at Washington that this is one of the introduced Australian species, the name of which has not yet been ascertained.—ED.