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A New *Ophiogomphus* (*Aeschnidae*: *Odonata*) from Massachusetts.*

By S. W. BROMLEY.

(Pl. XI, Figs. 1-4)

On June 1, 1922, a small *Ophiogomphus* was collected in Amherst, Massachusetts, by Howard Norwood, a student in Entomology, on the campus of the Agricultural College, in front of one of the buildings. In appearance it was quite unlike any species of this genus that had come to my notice.

Although but one individual, a female, has been obtained, it seems sufficiently distinct to merit description. It was at first referred to *O. aspersus* Morse, but is much shorter and more robust than that species, besides having its hind wings proportionately broader, with a large flavescent area which is lacking in *aspersus*. It differs also in the position and coloration of

*Contribution from the Entomological Laboratory of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass.

A Natural Freak (Coleop.: Coccinellidae).

A lady bug, or lady beetle, pierced by a pine needle, would seem nearly impossible under natural conditions, yet just such a specimen was sent to the State Entomologist of New York accompanied by the statement that the insect was alive when found and the needle attached to the twig. Moreover, this was on the top of an Adirondack Mountain near a cliff, remote from habitations, consequently this odd condition could not have been the work of children. An examination of the specimen showed that it had been neatly pierced by the pine needle, a portion, approximately one-quarter of an inch long, protruding from the under surface. There was no crushing or mangling, as would have been probable if the insect had been thrust upon the pine needle by a shrike. The neat entrance and exit of the needle and the color of the beetle showed that it had recently transformed. The probabilities are that the branch, swinging in the wind at the time the beetle was just issuing from the pupa, drove the somewhat old and stiff pine needle through the soft, developing insect and lifted it from an adjacent support. It is one of the curious accidents which might easily happen and generally escapes notice. A beetle transfixed in this manner might easily live several hours and possibly a day or two.

We have seen nothing of the kind before in spite of some thirty years' study of insect life. The victim of this odd accident was a fifteen-spotted lady beetle, *Anatis 15-punctata* Oliv.

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Junior Scientific Aid (Entomology).

The United States Civil Service Commission announces the following open competitive examination:

An examination for junior scientific aid (entomology) will be held throughout the country on January 7, 1925. It is to fill vacancies in the Bureau of Entomology, Department of Agriculture, at an entrance salary of \$1,320 a year. Advancement in pay may be made without change in assignment up to \$1,680 a year. The duties of the position include scouting, inspection, assisting in the application of insecticides, and general field laboratory work. Competitors will be rated on technical questions, and education and experience. Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or the secretary of the board of U. S. civil-service examiners at the post office or custom house in any city.