" 'At the time of his death he had been for some months a valuable assistant and member of the Boston Society of Natural History, where many of his works remain to speak for themselves. Among his associates there he was distinguished for his geniality of manner and never-failing readiness to assist younger students. At the time of his death his fame and foreign correspondence were somewhat extended, and he was actively engaged in the preparation of materials for an illustrative cabinet of the Natural History of his native State. He had published from time to time in the CANADIAN ENTOMOLIGIST and the Proceedings of the Natural History Society carefully elaborated results of his work, and contributed to various other periodicals devoted to his favorite branch of investigation. His fine private collection of insects, principally of the Coleopterous Order, in accordance with his expressed determination, form a part of the Museum of the Society to which he was attached, and is in itself no mean monument to his memory.' F. G. S.

"Mr. Sprague was elected a member of this Society May 5th, 1860."

CORRESPONDENCE.

RHAGIUM LINEATUM.

DEAR SIR,—

In reply to Mr. W. V. Andrew's enquiry, I would say that the above insect breeds under the bark of pine stumps. I have good reasons for thinking that it completes its transformations in September and hybernates until the following spring. I had long expected such to be the case from finding it in February and March, both living and dead, in the cavity formed by the larva in which to pupate. But in September, 1874, I found numerous specimens of the beetle that had just appeared, many of them not mature in color, and with them several specimens of the pupae.

H. L. MOODY, Malden, Mass.

DEAR SIR,—

Mr. Andrews inquires, page 80, about *Rhagium lineatum Oliv.* The habits of this common species are well known to collectors of Coleoptera. Harris says, Ins. Inj. to Veg., p. 116: "These grubs (larvae of *Rhagium*) live between the bark and the wood (of pines) often in great numbers together, and when they are about to become pupae, each one surrounds itself with an oval ring of woody fibres, within which it undergoes its

transformation. The beetle is mature before winter, but does not leave the tree until spring." I can personally vouch for the accuracy of the above, having often uncovered the beetle both in the fall and winter, as well as in the spring. It is ready to fly upon the advent of warm weather, and there were unquestionably other individuals about besides those observed on the church walls. This species, curious in other respects, furnishes also in its habits of hybernating a rather remarkable exception to the general rule among the Cerambycidae. Most species of this family in this latitude pass the winter in the larval stage. During many successive winters' collecting I have met with no other species in its mature form. Several years since a living specimen of *Miroclytus gazellula* Hald. was dug out of the bark of a living white oak, quite late in October, where it would doubtless have passed the winter months. Mr. E. P. Austin tells me, in a letter written at the time, of finding a specimen of *Graphisurus pusillus* Kirby, I think it proved to be, while sifting leaves in the winter of '73—'74. The only other instance which I now remember of the occurence of a Cerambycide in winter is given by H. F. Fay, of Columbus, Ohio, in the Proc. Ent. Soc. of Phil., 1, p. 198, in an article on "Winter Collecting." He says: "The only Longicorn I have met with is a single specimen of *Cyrtophorus niger* Lec., or a var. of *Clytus albofasciatus* Grey."———"It was found"———"in the soft wood of a decaying elm."

F. PLANCHARD, Lowell, Mass.

DEAR SIR,—

In answer to Mr. Andrews' enquiry about *Rhagium lineatum*, in CAN. ENT., No. 4, I will say that I have found thousands under the bark of pine logs during the fall and at various times until the early summer months. The larva, pupa and imago are frequently found all at one time and under the bark of the same log, and I have at this time a bottle of specimens gathered in November from under the bark of a Jersey pine log not twenty miles from Mr. Andrews' residence.

A. S. FULLER, Ridgewood, Bergen Co., N. J.

ON THE USE OF CYANIDE OF POTASSIUM.

We have been favored with a letter from Mr. J. E. Chase, of Holyoke, Mass., in reference to the use of bottles containing Cyanide of Potassum for catching and killing moths. Mr. C. encloses a specimen label such as

he attaches to bottles and distributes among those of his friends who are disposed to help him in making captures. We append this for the benefit of our readers:

POISON.

DIRECTIONS HOW TO CATCH MOTHS, ETC.—The contents of the bottles are prepared by dissolving Cyanide of Potassium in water, and pouring into the bottle to the depth of half an inch; then drop in Plaster Paris until it thickens, and let it stand until hardened, keeping it CORKED. To catch moths with it, the best way is to take sugar from a molasses hogshead and mix with water, making it thick; spread this mixture on old posts, or trunks of trees, fences, &c., for two or three days. When the moths begin to scent the sugar, provide yourself with a small lantern giving light only on one side; visit each post and tree, and you will find moths by letting the light shine on the sweetened places. Then hold the bottle under one of them, and it will dart or fall into it; cork immediately or it will fly out. Then put the bottle in your pocket, and use another bottle to catch the next one, and by that time the first bottle will be ready for use again. You can thus visit each post, and when you reach the last one it is better to put the moths into a box, so that the new ones will not spoil them by flying among them. Some persons dip old rags into the syrup and hang them up to attract the moths.

DEAR SIR,—

From a friend in the neighborhood of Salt Lake, Utah Territory, I received a small lot of Lepidoptera, and as collectors would no doubt be pleased to learn something of the fauna of that locality, I will givt you a list of the insects received, viz:

Papilio daunas Boisd,
Pieris protodice Boisd. & Lec.,
Anthocaris ausonides Boisd.,
Colias eurytheme Boisd.,
Vanessa antiopa Linn.,
Pyrameis caryae Hübn.,
Lycaena anna,
Chrysophanus helloides Boisd.
Gnophaela vermiculata,
Deilephila lineata,
Platysamia gloverii Strecker,
Arctia americana,
Catocala faustina? Strecker,
Erebus odora,

Of Platysamia gloverii I received two examples, both males, and as there were none of P. cecropia among the lot, I would take it to be a proof that gloverii is not a form of that species. Besides the differences