

with *Culex* larvæ, the young *Toxorhynchites* continued to prey upon each other until but a single survivor remained in each vessel. Having a habit of backing blindly about in the water, they sooner or later come within reach of the jaws of their companions."

As these remarks appear to be susceptible of an interpretation that was never intended by their author, I should like to take this opportunity of explaining them more fully.

With regard to the earlier paragraph, until their carnivorous proclivities had been definitely proved, the newly-hatched larvæ were crowded together in a single vessel, without those of any other species. They had therefore no choice but to devour each other—or starve.

In the second paragraph, I thought that the concluding sentence sufficiently explained the disappearance of the *Toxorhynchites* in spite of the presence of other *Culex* larvæ.

My experience was certainly not that of Mr. Paiva, who found "that the larva will devour that of any other species, if present, before attacking those of its own kind."

I do not, for a moment, suppose that *Toxorhynchites* larvæ prefer to feed upon members of their own species; but I am equally doubtful of their preference for those of other species. I am inclined to believe that it is a matter of complete indifference to them and that the choice of prey is guided simply by opportunity. Their jaws instinctively close upon any wriggling creature that comes within reach—be it one of their own or an alien race. The more sluggish habit of the *Toxorhynchites* renders it a more easy prey, especially when combined with its habit of backing about on the surface of the water.

The fact remains that, in any restricted collection of water—such as the cup of a broken bamboo stem, it is seldom that more than a single fully-developed *Toxorhynchites* larva can be found, amongst a crowd of other Culicid larvæ.

E. ERNEST GREEN.

PERADENIYA, 15th May, 1912.

CRUSTACEA.

EAST ASIATIC SPECIES OF *Apus*.—When writing my notes on this subject (Rec. Ind. Mus., vi, 1911, p. 357) I was unable to give any references to *Apus granarius*, Simon. For the following I am indebted to Dr. W. T. Calman:—

Apus granarius, Simon, Ann. Soc. entom. France, ii, 1886, p. 446, and G. O. Sars, Ann. Mus. Zool. St. Petersburg, vi, 1901, p. 133, pl. i, pl. ii, figs. 1—12.

The species was first described from specimens found in the neighbourhood of Peking, while the examples subsequently examined by Sars were obtained at several localities in Eastern Mongolia.

I have recently had opportunity of consulting Packard's full description of *Apus himalayanus* (Hayden's Ann. Rep. U. S. Geol. Survey for 1873, Washington, 1874, p. 327, pl. xvi, figs. 5, 5a), but I am still not convinced that the form is really distinct from *A. cancriformis*.

STANLEY KEMP.