

HALTICA RUFA, ILL., AT MOUNT ST. HILAIRE, QUE.

I was out collecting at Mount St. Hilaire, Que., on the 27th June, 1905. After a long and tiresome walk through the woods, I came to a small marshy piece of land in which several small willows were growing. I immediately went to these bushes, expecting to get some Chrysomelidæ, in which I was particularly interested. I shook several of the trees over my net, and then examined what had fallen into it. My efforts were greatly rewarded by the finding of one specimen of a reddish Chrysomelid, which I at once placed in the Halticini group. I had never seen it in any of my outings, and thought it was a good species. I brought my capture to Mr. Stevenson's attention, who was with me that day, and he made a good search for another specimen. I do not know whether he got some or not, but for my part I managed to get another specimen after hard labour.

When I returned home I mounted them on card points, with exact data, and placed them in a special box, for future study.

It was only a month later that I succeeded in determining them. I first consulted Mr. Wickham's descriptions of the Chrysomelidæ of Ontario and Quebec, in the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, Vol. XXIX. A rapid glance showed me that my insect was not described here, so I looked up Dr. Horn's Synopsis of the Halticini of North America, published 1889. It did not take me long to find that the name of my little beast was *Haltica rufa*, Ill., an odd-looking *Haltica* indeed, and Dr. Horn is certainly right in stating the following remarks in reference to it: "This insect seems to have some trouble in finding a permanent generic resting place. Following the 'Catalogus,' it is a *Disonycha*, while a species completely congeneric (and I think also specifically identical) has been described in the 'Biologia' as *Lactica scutellaris*. That it cannot be referred to *Lactica* is evident from the character of the basal impression of the thorax, and the choice is plainly between *Disonycha* and *Haltica*. The latter genus has been chosen because there is a well-marked ante-basal depression of the thorax, which is, however, said to occur in *Disonycha*, but is not present in any of our species."

Dr. Horn gives to this insect a wide range of distribution, being from Massachusetts to Illinois, Florida and Texas, extending through Mexico to South America. I do not think it was ever known to be found in Canada, and I thought, therefore, it would be of general interest to record its capture here.

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