NEW TRAP-DOOR NESTS OF SPIDERS.—In two recent papers, Arachnides du Venezuela, (Ann. soc. ent. de France, 1889, v. 9) and Avicularidae du Nord de l'Afrique, (Actes soc. Linnéenne de Bordeaux) E. Simon describes and figures a number of new nests of *mygalidae*. Among the Venezuela species, *Pseudidiops opifex* makes a short tube with trap-door on branches of trees. The tube is attached to the bark by one side and covered with bits of bark and lichens. *Stothis astuta* makes a short tube with a trap-door at each end, sometimes the tube is among loose rubbish on the surface of the ground and is then straight. In other places where the soil is more solid it burrows obliquely below the surface, carries the tube a short distance just under ground and turns it up again to the surface. *Rhytidicolus structor* makes a nest of three distinct chambers connected by narrow openings both closed by trap-doors, the one between the first and second chambers opening inwards. The cocoon is flat and is hung across the outer chamber. *Psalidops melanopygia* makes a tubular burrow, lined partly with silk, and with a branch near the upper end like many other species, but with no trap-door, and conceals the mouth of the tube with leaves and rubbish. *Epipedesis opifex* makes a simple furrow on the surface of the ground under a stone or moss and covers it with silk.

Among the African species *Leptopelma cavicola* makes a branched tube without any trap-door. *Dolichoscapus latastei* carries its tube with trap-door ten centimeters above the surface of the ground making it stiff with bits of dirt and leaves fastened with silk to the outside. *Dolichoscapus vittatus* was found in several cases to bore at the bottom of its burrow a short tube too small for the spider, filled with the remains of insects that it had eaten. *Dolichoscapus artifex* makes a very peculiar, complicated burrow. At the mouth it has the usual flat trap-door. A short distance below the surface the burrow is enlarged into

a spherical cavity in which works a door of a different kind. It consists of a lump of dirt covered with silk, shaped like half an egg with the edges rounded off and large enough to half fill the spherical cavity. When turned with its longest diameter vertical and its convex side against the wall of the cavity it leaves room for the spider to pass on the opposite side from the upper to the lower part of the burrow. When turned with its longest diameter across the burrow it closes it completely. To complicate this arrangement still more, a flexible tube of silk, continuous with the lining of the lower part of the burrow and open at the top, is attached along the flat side of this door so that when the door is open the spider passes up or down through this tube, and when the door is closed the tube is flattened against the side of the burrow.

J. H. Emerton.

OTIORHYNCHUS SULCATUS INJURIOUS TO PLANTS IN GREENHOUSES IN MASSACHUSETTS.—Mr. W. M. Corving of West Roxbury wrote me 5 March, 1889, that the Cyclamens in the greenhouses of the Messrs. Fisher Brothers of Montvale, Mass., were seriously injured by a beetle. The injuries were confined chiefly to the flowers but sometimes the bulb was destroyed. The leaves being hard and leathery escape injury. Mr. Corving sent me a specimen which proved to be the well known European weevil *Otiorhynchus sulcatus*, the existence of which in Massachusetts has been known for a very long time. Dr. Horn gives as localities Massachusetts, Canada, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia; all of these are represented in the Leconte collection. The general collection of the Museum contains two specimens from Europe (Ziegler collection) and six specimens collected in Cambridge in 1872 by Boll. I was interested to know when and by whom the beetle was first recognized here. Schoenherr (Curc., 1843, v. 7, p. 371) gives *O. apiculatus* Say Mss. as a synonym of *O. sul-*