



Another brownish individual, more contrastingly marked.

Now you see me...



The lichen-colored nymph is easily seen against barren rock...

...now you don't!



...but blends in marvelously amongst the lichens.



Grampus and go-devil

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Corydalus cornutus female at a blacklight sheet in Sam A. Baker State Park, Wayne Co., Missouri.

Ever taken a close look at a female dobsonfly's head? Female dobsonflies don't get nearly as much attention as the males due to the latter's ridiculously elongated mandibles. While female mandibles are more modestly proportioned, don't think they're ineffectual—females are quite capable of inflicting a blood-letting nip if one is not careful. Certainly the female head is no less dinosaurian in appearance than the male's, and while I know that *Corydalus cornutus* is the product of the same amount of evolutionary time as any other species on earth today, I can't help but think they look so "primitive."

While dobsonfly is the commonest name applied to these insects, I much prefer "go-devil" (not sure of the origin) and "grampus" (from "Krampus"—a mythical horned, creature in Alpine countries). The latter name in particular pays more appropriate homage to the monstrous appearance of these insects.

² Originally posted 20 Feb 2012 at *Beetles in the Bush*: <http://beetlesinthebush.wordpress.com>. Photos by the author.