

speaks of our departed friend : "It is not a common-place man that has gone from our roll of active membership, but one who was larger than the ordinary—larger not only in mental capacity, but also in worthy ambitions, in appreciating the things that are worth living for, and in kindly regard for his fellow-men."

H. E.

#### TOWNEND GLOVER.

Professor Townend Glover, so long connected with the Government in the capacity of Entomologist, died at the house of his adopted daughter, Mrs. Daniel Hopper, in Baltimore, Sept. 7th, from an attack of apoplexy. His most intimate friends know comparatively little that is exact concerning his early life. He seems to have been born on the ocean near Rio Janeiro, of English parents, as near as we can find out, in the year 1813, so that at the time of his death, he had entered on his seventy-first year. From the most trustworthy statements it seems that he was taken to England, while yet a child, and received his education there and in Germany. He came to this country as a young man, and finally settled at Fishkill, on the Hudson. It was during his residence at Fishkill that he first became connected with the Patent Office, and we find his first recorded work on Entomology in the Agricultural Report for 1854. He subsequently accepted a position in the Maryland Agricultural College as lecturer on Natural History, and remained there until he was appointed Entomologist to the present Department of Agriculture in 1862.

Mr. Glover had many personal peculiarities and one of his humorous boasts was that he was born in no country and never named an insect. His early work shows him to have been an excellent observer, and some of his reports are models of careful and painstaking work. This is especially true of his reports on insects affecting the cotton plant in the United States. He was most ready with his pencil, and had a positive genius for modelling fruits and mounting birds. He was the founder of the present museum of the Department of Agriculture.

His chief work in Entomology, aside from the numerous annual reports which he prepared as Entomologist to the Department, was the preparation of a large number of copper-plate engravings (287 in all,) of insects, with an immense number of collected notes. These plates, especially the earlier ones, are admirable illustrations of most of the commoner insects of the United States, and their transformations, and it had always been his intention to issue them as a complete work on North American Entomology. They not only represent many original drawings from life, but copies of a great many figures by other authors. Thus many figures from Smith and Abbott, Boisduval and Leconte and Ratzeburg, are reproduced. In time the same insect often came to be repeated on different plates, and the work evidently grew beyond the author's anticipations when it was conceived. In the preparation of these plates he showed an enthusiasm and an industry almost phenomenal. Some of them have been published in limited editions, as "M.S. Notes from my Journal—Diptera ;" also with sim-



ilar titles, the plates and notes on Hemiptera, Orthoptera, and on the Cotton Plant and its Diseases. The plates of the remaining orders have been circulated among a few of his friends, but there are but fifteen full sets in existence. The plates with the notes were purchased a year ago by the Government for \$7,500, and are now deposited in the National Museum under the care of Prof. Baird.

It is doubtful whether any entomologist will ever care to take the responsibility of editing and revising this unfinished work, but the plates and notes, just as they are, ought to be published in limited editions by the Government and distributed to educational institutions and libraries throughout the country.

C. V. R.

VICTOR TOUCEY CHAMBERS.

Entomologists will learn with deep regret of the death of V. T. Chambers, at Covington, Ky., on August 7th—his fifty-second birthday. He was a lawyer by profession, and yet found time to do a great deal of entomological work. His writings have been confined almost exclusively to the Tineidæ, and all of his earlier papers were descriptive in their character and were published mainly in the "Canadian Entomologist."

His later writings, published in "Psyche" and the "Cincinnati Quarterly Journal of Science," dealt largely with the larval structure of the Tineidæ. In addition to these various articles, he published in Bulletin 1, Vol. IV., of the United States Geological and Geographical Survey, a list of "Tineina and their food-plants" and an "Index to the described Tineina of the United States." His collection was some years ago deposited with the Cambridge Museum of Comparative Zoology, and duplicates of many of his types are in the possession of private individuals.—*From American Naturalist.*

JNO. L. LECONTE, M.D.

This distinguished entomologist, and most estimable man, died at his residence in Philadelphia, Nov. 18, 1883, at the comparatively early age of 58 years. In him the world has lost an earnest devotee of science, and those who knew him best, a warm-hearted, affectionate and sympathizing friend. He commenced the study of natural history while little more than a boy, his taste for such pursuits being encouragingly fostered by his father—himself a distinguished naturalist—and the collaborator with the late Dr. Boisduval in the "Lepidoptera of North America." Many other members of his family are of great eminence in the scientific world, two of his cousins, Drs. Jno. and Jos Leconte (the latter a well-known geologist,) holding high positions in the University of California. Dr. J. L. Leconte, whose death we have now to deplore, made a special study of the Coleoptera of this country, and his writings upon his favorite branch of entomology, are both numerous and valuable. A full list of them, numbering over 150 papers, was published about four years ago by "Psyche," and more recently by the Bull. Brooklyn Ent. Soc. It has been suggested that the whole of these papers, many of them now exceedingly scarce, should



Riley, Charles V. 1883. "Glover, Townend [Obituary]." *Papilio* 3(7-10), 167-168.

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