

a view, my companion with instinctive certainty found the harbour of Killinek, where towards

evening we alighted on the land, quite satisfied.

(To be continued)

JAMES H. EMERTON

BORN, 1847

DIED, DECEMBER 5, 1930

JAMES H. EMERTON, Arachnologist and Artist, died on December 5, 1930.

Born at Salem, Mass., in 1847, he, in due course, entered the local schools and later assisted in his father's drug store. At the age of fifteen he was visiting the Essex Institute where he came in contact with A. S. Packard and other naturalists. To begin with his natural history studies were somewhat generalized but later he concentrated almost wholly upon spiders on which he became a leading authority.

While yet a young man, Mr. Emerton travelled extensively and spent several months in Europe where he visited various museums and made comparisons of spiders and studied types. In later life he, on several occasions, visited Canada; attended an excursion of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club in 1916, and in company with Mr. J. B. Wallis of Winnipeg, made a trip to the Pas and Kettle Rapids along the Hudson Bay railway in 1917.

His papers are both numerous and varied. From Nathan Banks, in *The Canadian Entomologist*, we learn that his first paper appeared in "Psyche" in 1875 and this was followed by others such as: "Structure and Habits of Spiders"; "The Common Spiders of the United States"; "Life on the Seashore", and many more. A majority of these articles were beautifully illustrated by the author. Altogether he is said by Banks to have described over 350 species of spiders. A list of the spiders of Canada, from his pen, appeared in the *Transactions of the Canadian*

Institute, Vol. 12, 1917. He also contributed a number of articles to *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* of which his "Spiders of Canada" is most noteworthy.

As an artist Mr. Emerton is said to have illustrated at least part of Packard's "Guide to the Study of Insects", Packard's "Monograph of the Geometridæ", Scudder's "Butterflies of New England", Eaton's "Fern Book", and the reports of the United States Entomological Commission and various other works. He married Mary A. Hills in 1884, who predeceased him by approximately 32 years.

Mr. Emerton was an enthusiast and as such he rarely permitted the social affairs of life to interfere with its more scientific aspects. This was interestingly brought to my attention when he visited my home in Manitoba in 1917. Rising with the sun in order to observe the spider webs before the dew evaporated, he also retired with that orb because darkness obscured what he most desired to see.

He was a man of simple habits and one who rarely, if ever, forgot his friends. He was ever ready to encourage and assist the beginner or in any other way to foster the study to which he had devoted so much of his life. Finally, recognizing that his personal usefulness must ultimately cease he turned his thoughts to other means of perpetuating the work he had so much at heart. Among the donations left in his will for scientific purposes was included five hundred dollars towards the maintenance of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*.—NORMAN CRIDDLE.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Bufo cognatus cognatus FROM ALBERTA.—On June 8, 1928, Mr. T. B. Kurata and I stopped over between trains at Medicine Hat, Alberta, and spent some hours collecting just outside the city. A toad which Mr. Kurata picked up on that occasion has proved to be *Bufo cognatus cognatus*.

My identification of this specimen has been

confirmed by Professor Tracy I. Storer, to whom it was submitted.—E. B. S. LOGIER.

FRESH-WATER MUSSEL AND COOT KILL EACH OTHER.—While duck-hunting along the shores of the Shuswap lake recently, I came upon a dead coot lying close to the water. There was nothing unusual in this, as these birds are occasionally



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