

## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

## CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB.

*(Continued from p. 70.)*

12 Nov. 1886.—The 123d meeting of the club was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 12 Nov., 1886. In the absence of the president, Mr. S: H. Scudder was chosen chairman. The secretary announced the withdrawal from the club of Mr. Thaddeus William Harris. As Mr. Harris was a member of the executive committee a ballot was taken and Dr. George Dimmock elected to fill the vacancy.

Dr. G: Dimmock read a letter from Mrs. M. L. Owen, of Springfield, with reference to a curious case, exhibited a few meetings ago, which resembled that of one of the trap-door spiders.

He then showed specimens of what appeared to be a wingless species of *chalcidae* from Cambridge, and also a specimen of *Grapta interrogationis*, with its chrysalis, which emerged 10 Nov.

Mr. S: H. Scudder showed a photograph of Dr. Asa Fitch taken from an ambrotype.

Mr. Scudder then read a letter from Miss Adele M. Fielde, in which she described some of her observations on insects in China.

He then exhibited drawings of *Papilio philenor* and *P. chalcas*, by Mr. J. H. Emerton.

10 DEC., 1886.—The 124th meeting was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge. In the absence of the president, Mr. S: H. Scudder was chosen chairman.

The Secretary announced the withdrawal from the club of Mr. G: H. Parker.

Nomination no. 143, that of Mr. Paul Howard Cheney of Cambridge, for active membership was presented by Messrs. Child and Dimmock.

Dr. G: Dimmock read a paper on the "Reproduction of lost limbs in Coleoptera," in which he gave a somewhat detailed account of experiments which he had tried of amputating the legs of larvae of *coccinellidae* and the subsequent reproduction of these limbs. The paper was prefaced by an account of

what had been recorded by previous observers upon the reproduction of lost limbs in insects, and will be published in full in *Psyche*.

Mr. S: H. Scudder remarked upon an article by Graber in which that author arrives at the conclusion that the antennae are the only organs sensitive to smell.

He then read extracts from Plateau's "Une expérience sur la fonction des antennes chez la blatte" in which he concludes that the palpi as well as the antennae are capable of the perception of odors.

Mr. Scudder then showed "The butterflies of India," by G. F. L. Marshall and de Nicéville, and briefly reviewed the work.

14 JANUARY 1887.—The 125th meeting (11th annual meeting since incorporation) was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 14 January 1887. In the absence of the President, Dr. G: Dimmock was elected to the chair.

The annual report of the secretary, treasurer and librarian were presented and accepted, that of the treasurer having been previously examined and approved by the auditors.

The librarian reported 207 accessions to the library for the year 1886, making the total number of accessions 1562.

Nomination no. 143 was acted on and Mr. Paul Howard Cheney elected to active membership.

The club next passed to the election of officers for 1887, which resulted in the election of the following: president, J. H. Emerton; secretary, Roland Hayward; treasurer, B. Pickman Mann; librarian, G: Dimmock; members at large of executive committee, George Dimmock and S: H. Scudder.

Mr. B: Pickman Mann was chosen editor of *Psyche*, with power to choose his associates.

The annual address of the president, Prof. S. A. Forbes, was presented by the secretary. The address was upon "The present state of our knowledge concerning contagious insect diseases." (See *Psyche*, v. 15, p. 3-12.)



Mr. S: H. Scudder then showed some plates from a work which he has in preparation upon our New England butterflies.

11 FEB. 1887.—The 126th meeting was held at 61 Sacramento St., Cambridge, 11 Feb., 1887. The meeting was called to order at 8 P. M., the president, Mr. J. H. Emerton in the chair. Nine members were present.

The secretary, in behalf of the executive committee, stated that a contract had been drawn up between the club, as party of the first part, and Mr. B: Pickman Mann, as party of the second part. Under this contract, Mr. Mann was to assume the publication of *Psyche*. The contract was then read, accepted, and the secretary authorized to act as assistant treasurer as per contract.

The secretary was empowered to levy an extra assessment of fifty cents on all resident members.

Mr. S: H. Scudder read a paper on the injuries to plants by white ants. Maple trees have been quite seriously injured by *Termes flavipes*. Mr. Scudder found many of the geranium cuttings in a greenhouse attached to Mt. Auburn cemetery injured by these depredations. The white ants enter the cut end and eat away all but the rind. They have there just the conditions which they most need. Mr. Scudder recommends, as a preventative, that the trays in which the cuttings are placed should be lined with slate tiles. (See *Can. entom.*, v. 19, p. 217-218.)

Mr. S: H. Scudder exhibited under the microscope some of the androconia or scales peculiar to the male sex, which are found in the *hesperidae*. These occur in one or two places on the fore wing, according to which of the two groups into which he has divided the skippers they belong. In one of these groups, the *hesperidi*, comprising most of the larger skippers, they are found in a special overlapping fold of the wing membrane, on the costal border; in the other, the *pamphilidi*, into which the bulk of the smaller species fall, in a surface dash crossing the base of the median nervules. In the interior of each is the mass of slender,

more or less thread-like scales, which in our New England *hesperidi* take the form of curving or chain-like, slender, twisted ribbons, or thread-tipped, tapering scales; the homologous structures of the *pamphilidi* are the pointed scales or short pile forming the velvety interior of the discal streak. Outside of all, and partially or wholly concealing the others, are the large tenuous cover-scales, many times larger than the ordinary scales of the wing, with entire margin and concave or tortuous surface. While along the edges of the fold of the *hesperidi*, or in definite spots about the stigma of the *pamphilidi*, are two other sets of scales—a modification of those found along the veins of the costal area—slender, nearly uniform, one, two, or three-toothed, and generally of a very dark color; and secondly, the very minute boat-shaped scales, which are apparently intermingled indefinitely with the others.

The identity of the elements which characterize these two forms of male adornment in the skippers has not before been recognized, but there is an additional and independent character in the *pamphilidi* in the frequent presence below the area of the dash proper of a large patch of partially erect fan-like scales.

Mr. Scudder also called attention to the difference between the New England species of *Thanaos* without pre-marginal white spots on the fore-wing and the others, in that the curving hairs of the interior of the costal fold are replaced in the former: in one case, *brizo*, by twisted ribbon-like scales; and in the other, *icelus*, by thread-tipped, tapering scales, very different in general appearance from the curving hairs and wholly lacking the basal crook of these. (See *Psyche* v. 5, p. 86-88.) Remarks were made by various members.

Mr. S: H. Scudder then exhibited the inflated larvae of various diurnal lepidoptera.

Dr. G: Dimmock showed a living plant-louse, *Siphonophora pelargonii* hatched 2 Feb., which had nearly completed its full growth.



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