

## BOOK NOTICES.

MANUAL OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING AND PRESERVING INSECTS,  
by C. V. Riley, M.A., Ph D., United States Entomologist.

We have just received a copy of the above named work which will be gladly welcomed by a large number of students of nature. There is, perhaps, no enquiry which is more frequently made by amateur naturalists than, "Where can I get the best directions for collecting and preserving insects?"

And there is also, now, since Economic Entomology has become recognized as so important a factor in agricultural pursuits, a constant demand from farmers and gardeners for information as to the best means of collecting for study or for forwarding to specialists for identification any insects which may be found attacking their crops, or concerning which they may wish for enlightenment as to their habits. Prof. Riley has provided in this volume a most complete answer to these demands. Great skill has been shown in selecting from so vast a subject those details only which the author's great knowledge and experience enabled him to judge, were essentials.

This work, which is a pamphlet of 149 pages, excellently well printed and profusely illustrated with figures of the very first order, many of which have been prepared especially for it, is issued by the Smithsonian Institution, as Part F of Bulletin of the United States National Museum, No. 39.

A concise classification of true insects gives in a few pages an excellent summary of the science of Entomology, which is so well illustrated that any tyro will with ease recognize the order to which such specimens as he may find belong.

The different apparatus and means of collecting and killing insects are then dwelt upon at length with special directions for each order.

Under the heading Entomotaxy the preparation, labelling and care of specimens, with the necessary apparatus, cabinets and materials, are treated. Special attention is given to cabinets and their arrangement, and under Museum Pests, Mould, etc., much valuable advice is given which could be gained only by the experience of many years of constant work.



The rearing of insects from the egg is the next subject. Here we find full instructions for carrying on successfully this fascinating work.

The directions for packing and transmitting insects are short but complete, and it would be well if many that are not merely amateurs would read them carefully and carry them out.

A useful appendix to this manual is a list of text books and other entomological works, with suggestions as to the best way to obtain them.

The publication of this book must, we believe, be followed by a largely increased interest in the study of insect life, as we feel strongly that the chief reason why so few young people, both boys and girls, on this continent have not had their eyes opened to the charms of this branch of Natural History, to say nothing of its usefulness, is the want of such a help as Prof. Riley has now provided in this concise, complete, and plainly written manual.

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THE ORTHOCERATIDÆ OF THE TRENTON LIMESTONE OF THE WINNIPEG BASIN, by J. F. Whiteaves, (Trans. Roy. Soc. Can., Vol. IX, Section IV., pp. 77-90, 1892.)

This paper as the author indicates "consists of a critical and systematic list of the *Orthoceratidæ* at present in the Museum of the Geological Survey of Canada from the formation and region indicated in its title, with descriptions of such species as appear to be new." The specimens were obtained, for the most part, by officers of the Geological Survey of Canada: Dr. Bell, Messrs. Tyrrell, Weston, Dowling, Lambe and also by a number of gentlemen interested, e.g., Messrs. Donald Gunn and A. McCharles, the last mentioned having sent unusually fine specimens in 1884.

In this paper Mr. Whiteaves departs from the classification of *Cephalopoda* by Karl Zittel and considers the genera *Actinoceras* and *Sactoceras* as distinct from *Orthoceras*, and *Poterioceras* from *Gomphoceras*. The characters of the specimens examined by Mr. Whiteaves and the grounds upon which that author separates these genera are in our estimation valuable and valid.



1892. "Manual of Instructions for Collecting and Preserving Insects, by C. V. Riley [Review]." *The Ottawa naturalist* 6(4), 67–68.

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