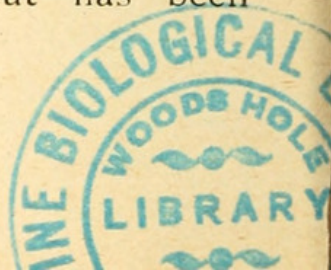


## BOOK NOTICE.

"THE BUTTERFLY BOOK": A Popular Guide to a Knowledge of the Butterflies of North America; by W. J. Holland, Ph. D., D. D., etc., New York, (also issued by Wm. Briggs, Toronto), 1898. Price \$3.

There are, I believe, few works which have appeared of late years in America which are destined to mark such an epoch in the development of American boys and girls as Dr. Holland's beautiful Butterfly Book. A most noticeable difference between the youths of Europe and America is that in the old world it is very exceptional to find any young man or woman who has not some hobby or special study to which they devote a large proportion of their spare time during the years they are at school. This extra occupation of the mind acts as a relaxation from the regular prescribed studies and has a very beneficial effect upon the development of students both mentally and physically. Some branch of natural history or athletic sports are the two directions particularly to which this energy is generally turned. Fortunately for boys and girls in Britain, France and Germany there were always well-illustrated, cheap and comprehensive works available by means of which they could identify, and learn the habits of, the insects, birds, plants and animals they wished to study. In America until quite recently there were with the exception of books on plants none of these elementary but comprehensive works and as a consequence natural history studies have been almost confined to the plant world. Recently Dr. A. S. Packard and Dr. S. H. Scudder have published delightful books on insects which have been eagerly read by our boys and girls; but Dr. Holland's Butterfly Book surpasses easily anything which has preceded it in the way of a help for those who knowing little of natural history have yet had their attention caught and wish to know about the bright coloured butterflies which are always so attractive to everyone for their beauty of form and colour as well as for their graceful movements. The delight to be derived from a study of their habits while breeding them from the egg to maturity is at everybody's disposal but has been enjoyed by very few.



The Butterfly Book at \$3 a copy is a marvel of cheapness. In 48 beautiful plates, coloured life-like photographs are given of almost every butterfly in the United States and Canada and with it a butterfly collector will hunt for many years before he finds a species which he cannot identify. Of course, even in a large 8vo of 382 pages with 48 crowded plates there are some things which might occur to one as desiderata, e.g. a few more undersides, or rather longer descriptions of the species; but let such a one think for a moment what the author has given us, and the almost nominal price at which we get it. The Butterfly Book is a magnificent work, exquisitely printed and illustrated, comprehensive and remarkably accurate. It can hardly fail to do for American boys and girls what its much humbler predecessor, Coleman's British Butterflies, has done for their thousands of brothers and sisters in Great Britain, who have to thank that little blue cloth 12mo of 175 pages with its 16 plates for many hours of fascinating study, out door exercise and innocent elevating amusement instead of much wasted time and degrading useless inactivity. J. F.

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#### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

The forty-eighth meeting of this Association was held at Columbus, Ohio, on Aug. 21-26th, last.

The Canadians who attended it were Rev. Louis C. Wurtele and J. Hunter Wurtele, of Actonvale, P. Q., Mrs. A. H. Moore, of Sawyerville, P. Q., Dr. W. Saunders, (of the Experimental Farm,) A. P. Saunders, F. A. Saunders, and J. F. Whiteaves (of the Geological Survey Department), Ottawa.

At the opening general meeting, the President, Dr. Edward Orton, State Geologist, made the following graceful and kindly reference to the Canadian visitors:

No organization ever visits an American city that has a better claim on the appreciation and respect of all its people. In the first place, you can hardly expect to entertain an organization of larger range, so far at least as its name is concerned. It is the *American* Association. It transcends not only all state limits, but national boundaries as well. An organization that represents the United States takes in a respectable part of the land areas of the planet; but this



Fletcher, James. 1899. "The Butterfly Book, by W. J. Holland [Review]." *The Ottawa naturalist* 13(6), 150–151.

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