

tainly carried out his design most successfully, and given to the world two very charming and interesting books on out-of-doors Natural History. Anyone, whether young or old, who takes any pleasure in the beauties of nature, and any interest in the varied world of animal and vegetable life, will read them with the greatest delight, and follow the author with unflagging interest, during his rambles over hill and dale, and by marsh and burn and fen. In the former work, more attention is paid to the habits and variations of insects, while the latter treats of any animal or plant that may be met with in expeditions to widely different localities. Amusing episodes and pretty bits of verse enliven the volumes, and many capital pictures render the later one still more attractive.

REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXPERIMENT STATION, by John B. Smith, Sc. D., for the year 1893.

It is obviously impossible to notice all the ever-welcome bulletins and reports that constantly flow from the various Experimental Stations throughout North America, for copies of which we are very grateful to their authors. We may, however, call attention to Dr. Smith's excellent departure from the ordinary report. After giving the usual general review of the season, and an account of the most important insect attacks of the year, he devotes a large portion of his work to a most useful and admirable account of the "Beneficial Insects," in all the different orders. It is clearly and plainly written, so as to be within the comprehension of non-entomologists, and is profusely illustrated with excellent figures, many of them being new productions by means of photography. It ought to be widely distributed, in order to teach the general public that a very large proportion of insects are not noxious, and should not be wantonly destroyed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

INSECTS AT LIGHT.

Sir,—That light is one of the greatest attractions to the Insect World has never been so forcibly demonstrated to me as this summer. In the eastern part of the City of Cleveland, and situated near the Garfield Memorial, are the immense car barns of the C. E. R. Co., one of the street railways of this city. One of these buildings, with a breadth of one hundred feet and a length of over three hundred feet, is painted white on

the inside. At night it is illuminated both inside and out with electric arc lights. The walls, I should judge, are about thirty feet in height. Situated as these buildings are, near the cemetery, some parts of which lie untouched by the hand of man, being in a truly primeval condition, you can see at once that the place is exceedingly favorable to the entomologist. It seems that these white walls, together with the electric lights, form a moth trap which no entomologist could improve. The ends of the building are, of course, left open. This place is a veritable fairyland for the entomologist. During a storm insects of all kinds will fly in, and are easily captured. Among the Lepidoptera which I have taken are the following: *Attacus luna*, *A. Cecropia*, *A. Polyphemus*, *A. Promethea*, *Eacles imperialis*, *Saturnia Io*, *Arctia acreea*; over twenty different species of Hawk moths, and many others too numerous to mention. As I am only collecting Lepidoptera, I have not paid much attention to the other orders of insects. The Coleoptera are also very abundant.

Before I close, I may speak of *Argynnis aphrodite*, which I never saw so common before. On going into a meadow a dozen will fly up at your approach, while they are over everything and everywhere. Never here have I seen a butterfly in such numbers.

GEO. L. LEE, Cleveland, Ohio.

ATTACUS PROMETHEA.

Sir,—Having noticed Mr. Moffat's communication regarding *Attacus promethea* in the August number, it occurs to me that the following may prove of interest. On June 10th, while in Milton, Mass., I placed two females in a box on the piazza for assembling. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon a male was observed flying around the house. He was captured, and a short time later another appeared. They kept coming at intervals until about half-past five, and after that none were seen. There were ten in all, of which number eight were perfect. On the next day, at about the same time, they began to come again, but very much more numerous. At the end of the afternoon, twenty-nine had been taken, besides a large number which were not collected, because of imperfections. The moths were not seen either night. The next day no more moths put in their appearance, and the females were removed. Besides this occasion, I have several times seen the male moths flying around, when there were no females in the vicinity. I have never seen the females fly by day, however, or the males except between three and six o'clock. It seems to me that *Promethea* is habitually a day flyer, but I have never seen any other of the Saturniidae on the wing during the daytime. All the males which assembled showed the same apparent blindness which Mr. Moffat speaks of.

JAMES A. FIELD, Milton, Mass.

Mailed October 5th.