

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE

THE present volume contains all the essays on Flies, or Diptera, from the *Souvenirs entomologiques*, to which I have added, in order to make the dimensions uniform with those of the other volumes of the series, the purely autobiographical essays comprised in the *Souvenirs*. These essays, though they have no bearing upon the life of the Fly, are among the most interesting that Henri Fabre has written and will, I am persuaded, make a special appeal to the reader. The chapter entitled *The Caddis-worm* has been included as following directly upon *The Pond*.

Since publishing *The Life of the Spider*, I was much struck by a passage in Dr. Chalmers Mitchell's stimulating work, *The Childhood of Animals*, in which the secretary of the Zoological Society of London says:

'I have attempted to avoid the use of terms familiar only to students of zoology and to refrain from anatomical detail, but at the same time to refrain from the irritating habit