

The address of the president, Dr. Dixon, was exceedingly gratifying to entomologists, by reason of his laying some stress on the fact that among the original founders of the academy was Thomas Say, the father of American entomology. In his mention of the services many of the former members of the academy had made to science, he again spoke of Thomas Say, who went out with the Long Expedition to the Rocky Mountains, in 1819. This was followed by expressions of appreciation of the later works of Le Conte, Horn, Cresson and others. He told of the size and importance of some of the special collections, mentioning among others the collection of insects which now numbers 1,000,000 specimens and has world-wide renown.

Doctor Dixon showed the practical use of the work of the academy, and the real value to people and Government in the study of insect life; the now known cause of many preventable diseases, among them yellow fever, an outbreak of which was promptly suppressed in New Orleans, La., and malaria, which have been banished from Cuba and the Panama Canal section. He gave some figures showing the immense damage done to crops by insect life, and showed the money loss in this field, which economic entomology is trying to correct, to be more than \$1,000,000,000 a year.

There were but two papers presented relating exclusively to insects. The first by Henry Skinner, M.D., D.Sc., on "Mimicry in Butterflies."

Dr. Skinner's long familiarity with these insects rendered his paper of unusual interest and value. First calling attention to the many cases of deceptive resemblance among butterflies, and the very much that had been written on protective mimicry, both in this and other countries, he called attention to the fact that actual observations on the feeding of birds on butterflies were almost entirely lacking here in America, so much so that at the present time protective mimicry among butterflies must be admitted to be far more fancied than real, and, that the proof justly demanded by science was here conspicuously lacking. The doctor rested his case on the scientific as well as legal objection of "not proven." The second paper, by Mr. Jas. A. G. Rehn, dealt with "The Orthopterological Inhabitants of the Sonoran Creosote Bush" throughout the country along the Mexican border so rich in new and unique species of insects. It was of much interest not only relative to Orthoptera but also from a faunal point of view.

#### PROF. WEBSTER'S ADDRESS.

Members of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia:

A very pleasing duty has devolved upon me as an honorary member of the Entomological Society of Ontario, in having been delegated to