

BOOK NOTICES.

THE GYPSY MOTH.—A report of the work of destroying the insect in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, together with an account of its history and habits both in Massachusetts and Europe. By E. H. Forbush and C. H. Fernald.

This report, a handsome volume of nearly 600 pages, well printed and most copiously illustrated with chromolithographs, photogravures, and wood cuts, gives a full account of the introduction of the now notorious "Gypsy moth" into America by Leopold Trouvelot in 1868 or 1869, traces its history, and records the efforts which have been made to exterminate it by the State of Massachusetts up to the end of 1895. The spread of this insect for the first ten years was remarkably slow, in the light of what we now know of its capabilities for harm. During that period it was not noticed by anyone but the introducer. The first extensive outbreak was in 1889, but for ten years before that it had given great annoyance to the people living in the part of the town of Medford where it was first introduced. It had also spread and had gained a foothold in thirty townships without attracting public attention. Since that time its history is well known. In 1890 the first Gypsy Moth Commission was appointed and the work of fighting the pest was inaugurated. In February of the next year this commission was removed and another one substituted. On 12th of March, Mr. E. H. Forbush, the present very efficient Director of Field Work, was appointed, and on 18th June Prof. C. H. Fernald began his labours as Entomological Advisor. Since that time the work has been pushed on with great energy, and the present valuable report is an outcome of the combined efforts of a practical, energetic manager and a careful scientific entomologist. The two parts of this report, prepared by the above-named officers, are quite distinct and form together a very complete treatise, not only upon the Gypsy moth, but upon the general principles which it is necessary to study when combatting any injurious insect. This carefully-prepared report, therefore, cannot but be for a long time an indispensable book of reference for economic entomologists.

There are in this volume many things which will attract the attention of entomologists. Indeed, it is so full and there are so many different subjects treated of, that even to give the titles would take more space than is at my disposal. The first thing which will be noticed is the adoption of the generic name *Porthetria*. Articles of particular note deal with