

Several pages which are devoted to the anatomy and embryology of the group, and are embellished by many useful figures, are succeeded by an account of the fossil forms and by a discussion of the zoological position of the class.

Dr. Sharp has taken up the Insecta (Hexapoda) in the third chapter, and nearly five hundred pages are devoted to the general consideration of the subject and a careful review of the Aptera (Thysanura and Collembola) the Orthoptera (inclusive of the Forficulidæ), the Neuroptera (under which name he includes several of the groups given ordinal rank by Brauer, Packard, Comstock, and others) and the lower families of the Hymenoptera. The remainder will follow in future volumes, which the Entomological world will look forward to with much interest. No one who is familiar with the work of the author needs to be assured of its excellence, and it will be sufficient to state that the literary side is fully as well upheld as the scientific. The reader whose knowledge of scientific terms is limited will find that careful attention has been given to making them clear, while the specialist will see that many important points, simply touched upon or slurred over by most text-books and "Natural Histories," are here elaborated by a master hand. The figures of large and bizarre forms of Orthoptera and the accounts in the text of their wonderful adaptation to environment convey a most instructive lesson. A remarkable case of resemblance to an ant is shown by a small Locustid (*Myrmecophana fallax*) which, with a form of body recalling in general that of an ant, is dependent for the "stalk" or pedicel of the abdomen upon a white spot on each side of the body, leaving only a narrow dorsal line dark.

We have not room to speak of all the groups in detail, but mention should be made of the very interesting accounts of the Termites, or white ants. To the inquiring mind, also, the practice of citation of authorities by means of foot-notes must commend itself—this plan being followed throughout the work. The beauty and careful selection of the illustrations deserve special remarks, while the press work is of the best. On the whole, we must consider the enterprise as one meriting the support of every entomologist who cares to see the treatment of his favourites placed in the hands of those competent to properly deal with it and who are able to give us a well-written, thoroughly interesting and reliable guide.

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