

Dr. J. G. Morris referred to the fact that certain Water Beetles carry with them when they dive a globule of air underneath their bodies, and asked for information as to what purpose it served. Mr. E. P. Austin said that this bubble was retained underneath by the stiff hairs along the abdomen, and as it was known that the air gradually disappeared if the insect remained long under water, it was supposed that the air was gradually inhaled by the insect, which was thus enabled to lengthen its stay under the water.

Mr. B. P. Mann presented a list of the Entomologists of North America, and requested the members to confer with him as to additions and corrections. Some beautiful examples of colored drawings of Noctuae by Mr. Pohlman, of Buffalo, were laid upon the table for the inspection of those present, and were much admired.

Mr. Scudder called the attention of the members to a lepidopterous insect which was doing much damage to the Pines on the Island of Nanucket. Previous to the war of 1812 the island was well wooded, but during that struggle the occupants were reduced to such straits for fuel that they had burned every tree. For many years the island had remained in a barren state, but some time ago plantations of Pines were begun, and a broad belt of young trees of *Pinus rigida* from 10 to 20 feet high, with scrub Oaks, now cover a large part of the island. The success of this experiment is seriously threatened by the presence of the insect referred to, which is a Tortrix belonging to the genus *Retinia*, and closely allied to *duplana*, *sylvestrana* and *frustrana* of Europe. The larva affects the tip of each terminal bud and bores its way through this into the twig to the depth of two or three inches, killing the terminal leaves and thus preventing the trees from making any growth. The moth is double brooded and has not been observed in that locality beyond the precincts of the island. Mr. Scudder also presented a plate with enlarged drawings of the insect and its work.

Mr. Comstock had met with the same insect on *P. inops*, and had found that the tips of the branches of the Pines were usually covered with a web. He had also found another species of *Retinia* infesting the twigs of *P. rigida*. This latter bores into the small twigs of the tree, from which there exudes masses of resin. The larva lives within the branch upon the wood, and before pupating forces its way through the mass to the outside.

Mr. Bassett had observed some fifteen years ago about Waterbury,