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The Society will hold its next meeting with the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Atlanta, Georgia.

ALEXANDER D. MACGILLIVRAY, Secretary,

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### BOOK NOTICE.

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THE SPIDER BOOK.—A manual for the study of the Spiders and their allies, the Scorpions, Pseudo-scorpions, Whip-scorpions, Harvestmen, and other members of the Class Arachnida, found in America, north of Mexico, with analytical keys for their classification and popular accounts of their habits. By John Henry Comstock. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.

Spiders have received relatively little attention on this continent from systematic zoologists, considering the large size of the order, the abundance of many of the species in every locality, their exceedingly interesting and varied habits and the important *role* that they play in the economy of nature. The same statement might, indeed, be made to include the whole of the Class Arachnida, but, whereas the other order of the class are less obviously attractive, it is difficult to understand why the spiders have never been favourites.

The "Spider Book," which is an excellent introduction to the study of the Arachnida, and the spiders in particular, is therefore to be welcomed as a most important addition to American arachnological literature, particularly as it is not only adapted to the needs of the beginner, but will doubtless also form a useful book of reference for teachers and entomologists generally.

In the first chapter the general characteristics of the Arachnida and their relationships to other classes of Arthropods are discussed. The characteristics of the various orders are also given, with tables