

DEAR SIR,—

As long ago as August 13th, 1829, Hentz, writing to Harris, notices the fact that *Megacephala (Tetracha) Virginica* and *Carolina*, although externally like *Cicindela*, have the habits of the *Carabidae*. May I ask if any good reason can be assigned why this genus should not be placed after *Cicindela* and not before it, thus bringing it into closer proximity to the family to which it seems to be most closely allied? See Harris cor., p. 77 and 78.

W. V. ANDREWS.

New York. March 29th, 1875.

DEAR SIR,—

I venture to suggest an improvement in Mr. Chase's "Cyanide Box," as described in your May No.

For reasons obvious enough to the chemist, the plan of dissolving the Cyanide of Potassium in water is not so good as that of pounding it and intimately mixing it with the Plaster of Paris, the water being unable to take up but a comparatively small quantity of the Cyanide. On page 208 of your fifth volume I gave a good recipe for making a collecting box.

W. V. ANDREWS.

36, Boerum Place, Brooklyn, N. Y., June 21st, 1875.

DEAR SIR,—

In number 12 of Mr. Strecker's work, it is claimed that his number 11 was printed in "August, 1874." I have before drawn attention to the fact that I can find no record of the issue of any number of this part before November. The point is raised on account of the publication by myself of three species of *Catocala* in the Trans. Am. Ent. Soc. for September, 1874, claimed to be superseded by Mr. Strecker's notice of the same species in "August." I am of the opinion that a work published privately and irregularly by an author should not take precedence over one published by a Scientific Society, on testimony consisting of the mere assertion of the interested author. It is possible that persons who live nearer Reading than I do may be in possession of facts which will show that none of Mr. Strecker's dates are reliable. For myself I think they are not accurate from a variety of circumstantial evidence. In one case a species is described under a date apparently before it could have been received by Mr. Strecker. I should have been glad to have noticed that Mr. Strecker had added his synonyms of *C. illecta* Walk. (= *C. magdalena* Strecker) and *C. nuptialis* Walk. (= *C. myrrha* Strecker) to his other corrections.