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COLLECTING TERRESTRIAL ARTHROPODS IN BARBADOS AND ANTIGUA, BRITISH WEST INDIES.

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I. Barbados.

The data upon which the following notes are based were secured by the writer and Mrs. Stoner during the time spent on the islands of Barbados and Antigua as members of the Barbados-Antigua Expedition sent out by the University of Iowa in the spring of 1918. The time between May 9 and June 17 was spent at Barbados. Collecting at Antigua was done between June 19 and July 19.

The island of Barbados is situated in $13^{\circ} 4'$ North latitude and $59^{\circ} 37'$ West longitude, and is the most easterly of the Antillean chain. It is about twenty-one miles long by fourteen broad, with an area of 166 square miles and a population of about 200,000, nine-tenths of which is black. The strata forming the basement series of Barbados consist of siliceous and calcareous sandstones and clays. About six-sevenths of the total area of the island is covered by a cap of corai rock which is more or less flat, and rises in a series of terraces to Mt. Hillaby in the "Scotland district," which is 1,104 feet in height. An area of approximately 6,000 acres at the northern and eastern side of the island has received that name on account of its peaked and hilly character. The remainder of the island is low and flat or at most slightly rolling, with few swamps and marshes and but two or three fresh water streams of any importance. Practically all the tillable land is under sugar cane, and but few remnants of the forests which once covered the island now remain. The annual rainfall is about sixty inches, and usually comes in the form of showers during the summer months. The dry season occurs in the winter and early spring months.

On account of the slight physiographic differentiation, the almost uniform state of cultivation and the density of the population, Barbados is not a particularly favorable place for collecting insects. In addition, practically all the grass land is closely grazed by goats and cattle, so that dense growths of vegetation are much restricted. In general the affinities of the insect fauna are with that of South America, but a number of North American and closely allied forms are to be found. A few indigenous forms also occur.

Whenever the entomologists started out on a collecting trip, the fact was quickly noised abroad that strange people were collecting butterflies. How the news spread so quickly was somewhat of a mystery in view of the fact that telephone service is seldom available to the blacks. But in a short while groups of children and older persons as well would put in their appearance and express a desire first to know what we were going to do with the insects, and suggesting as a probable answer that perhaps they were to be made into medicine. Having been more or less satisfactorily appeased by our answers, the second thought was to be of assistance—for a consideration. After a few usually vain attempts