

the inside. At night it is illuminated both inside and out with electric arc lights. The walls, I should judge, are about thirty feet in height. Situated as these buildings are, near the cemetery, some parts of which lie untouched by the hand of man, being in a truly primeval condition, you can see at once that the place is exceedingly favorable to the entomologist. It seems that these white walls, together with the electric lights, form a moth trap which no entomologist could improve. The ends of the building are, of course, left open. This place is a veritable fairyland for the entomologist. During a storm insects of all kinds will fly in, and are easily captured. Among the Lepidoptera which I have taken are the following: *Attacus luna*, *A. Cecropia*, *A. Polyphemus*, *A. Promethea*, *Eacles imperialis*, *Saturnia Io*, *Arctia acraea*; over twenty different species of Hawk moths, and many others too numerous to mention. As I am only collecting Lepidoptera, I have not paid much attention to the other orders of insects. The Coleoptera are also very abundant.

Before I close, I may speak of *Argynnis aphrodite*, which I never saw so common before. On going into a meadow a dozen will fly up at your approach, while they are over everything and everywhere. Never here have I seen a butterfly in such numbers.

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#### ATTACUS PROMETHEA.

Sir,—Having noticed Mr. Moffat's communication regarding *Attacus promethea* in the August number, it occurs to me that the following may prove of interest. On June 10th, while in Milton, Mass., I placed two females in a box on the piazza for assembling. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon a male was observed flying around the house. He was captured, and a short time later another appeared. They kept coming at intervals until about half-past five, and after that none were seen. There were ten in all, of which number eight were perfect. On the next day, at about the same time, they began to come again, but very much more numerous. At the end of the afternoon, twenty-nine had been taken, besides a large number which were not collected, because of imperfections. The moths were not seen either night. The next day no more moths put in their appearance, and the females were removed. Besides this occasion, I have several times seen the male moths flying around, when there were no females in the vicinity. I have never seen the females fly by day, however, or the males except between three and six o'clock. It seems to me that *Promethea* is habitually a day flyer, but I have never seen any other of the Saturniidae on the wing during the daytime. All the males which assembled showed the same apparent blindness which Mr. Moffat speaks of.

JAMES A. FIELD, Milton, Mass.

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