

Herr. Schaff. This is following the supplement of Kirby's Catalogue, but Dr. Staudinger and Mr. Elwes give Var. Werdandi, Zett., as a variety of *Colias Nastes*, Boisd.

The lists of authors and of works quoted are very complete, and the index giving both species and genera, the latter in heavy type, is very satisfactory. Altogether it is a most useful work and really indispensable to every worker on the North American Rhopalocera. It is issued by the American Entomological Society as part of their Transactions, but may be obtained separately from the author for \$1.00. H. H. L.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE THEORY OF WARNING COLOURS AND MIMICRY.

—By Frank Finn, B.A., F. Z. S., Deputy Superintendent of the Indian Museum, Calcutta. (Reprint from the Journal, Asiatic Society of Bengal.) Vols. LXIV., LXV., LXVI., LXVII., Part II., 1895-97.

In this little book of 84 pages, Mr. Finn has brought together a number of separates of his papers, printed in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, on this very interesting subject. The experiments were made, largely, with birds, but a lizard, *Calotes versicolor*, was used in one series, and a frog, *Rana tigrina*, and a Tree-Shrew, *Tupaia ferruginea*, in another series; in this last only a single individual of each species being used. The insects experimented upon were mainly butterflies, including largely, of course, such as are supposed to be distasteful or warningly or protectively coloured.

It is obviously impossible to go into the details of the many experiments carried out by Mr. Finn, and, therefore, only a synopsis of the results obtained are included here. As regarding the, in some instances, somewhat unsystematic experiments in the case of birds, Mr. Finn explains that "experimenting on this subject was not always his main object in keeping the birds at all," which leads us to suppose that, sometimes at least, the results given are what might be termed bi-products, which, instead of detracting from their value, might be regarded as adding thereto, as he would certainly be free from all mental bias, so difficult to avoid in cases where one has laboured long and intensely on a very interesting problem.

In regard to the lizard, *Calotes*, he states that "the behaviour of these certainly does not appear to afford support to the belief that the butterflies, at any rate, usually considered nauseous, are distasteful to them."