

## BOOK NOTICES.

An illustrated Essay on the Noctuidæ of North America, with "A Colony of Butterflies," by A. R. Grote, A. M. Lge. 8vo., pp. 85. Published by John Van Voorst, Paternoster Row, London, Eng.

This little volume is beautifully got up, printed in bold type on fine paper, and illustrated by four excellent colored plates on which forty-five species of Noctuids are figured. These moths have been previously described in various works, but have not been figured before, and appear to have been selected to adorn this handsome little book on account of their striking beauty; they are the gems of the genera to which they belong and well deserve to be thus made better known. Each specimen is numbered and accompanied by a brief reference or description.

In a preface of 23 pages the author gives a "brief *résumé*" of the sources from whence he has drawn his information; an account is also given here of the life history of the Cotton Worm from the egg to the perfect insect. It is to be regretted that the author should have marred this section of the work by a personal attack on Prof. Riley, an Entomologist who has done so much good work in Economic Entomology. It seems to us most unfair, whatever the provocation may be, to introduce personal reflections of this sort in a book where the party referred to has no opportunity of defending himself or of an explanation which will reach the same readers. Notwithstanding this defect, the little volume will commend itself for its excellencies otherwise, to all those who are interested in the study of the Noctuidæ, as a valuable and beautiful contribution to this department of Entomology.

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Transactions of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club. No. 3, 1881-1882; 8vo., pp. 66, with two plates.

We commend this record of the work of the Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club to all those who are interested in Canadian Natural History. In addition to the excellent address of the President, James Fletcher, Esq., it contains reports of the work accomplished by the Geological, Botanical and Entomological branches of the Club; a list of the birds found in the vicinity of Ottawa, and addresses which have been delivered on various natural subjects at the soirees held by the Club.