

later the date I had written still undisturbed, the only acknowledgment of my service came forth with admirable dexterity.

Use every man after his desert, and who should 'scape whipping?

Nevertheless I gave up forever this kind of chronological record.

Three additions to my communication before the librarians have been published, but they contain only isolated cases, certainly nothing of general importance. Of course the insects mentioned had injured books, and as everybody likes to have his own little pest, the new comers were chronicled with some emphasis. Nevertheless I have followed up the matter carefully during these six years, and would be able to give a nice list of names of more or less queer composition. Six years ago a part of the publications on book pests was not to be found here. But in the meantime I have been able to get some of them, the most important ones through the splendid custom of the public library of ordering books wanted by scientists for their study.

There is, in fact, no end of obnoxious creatures. "Misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows." Perhaps the word obnoxious is not exactly in the right place, as probably those bedfellows may consider the intruding stranger decidedly obnoxious. Nevertheless, as such philosophical views would destroy every legitimate Museum's business, we are bound to our accustomed impoliteness towards all intruders.

One morning Mr. R. T. Jackson, assistant in Geology in the Museum, asked my advice and help against a new pest in his department. The stones and petrefacts were left untouched, but all the new labels, written during the past year, were more or less injured, or nearly destroyed. Of course this is a serious danger for a collection, as the specimens lose their value if the locality or the scientific name is lost. A new form of labels had been chosen last year printed on excellent card paper. The stones are kept in small square open boxes, the label is folded in the middle; upon the lower half the stone is laid, to keep the label in place; upon the upturned half the locality and the name are written in order to afford an easy view of the contents of the collection. Now, since last winter this upper half has appeared to be scraped on both sides in such a manner that the writing is injured and in some cases has disappeared. The lower half of the label was similarly injured, so far as not covered by the stone; the under side of the lower half proved never to be injured, and was apparently protected by the bottom of the box, to which it was pressed