

SQUIRREL EATING A BIRD. I observed last summer at Angers, Que., in a garden, a common squirrel eating a bird. I chased the animal from tree to tree, but it did not release its prey until it was struck with a long stick. The bird was a young sparrow, although I think it was old enough to fly. It was still warm when I picked it up and the inside of its body was completely eaten. The fact seems to be peculiar as it occurred at a season when fruits, and other squirrel food, are plentiful, and I have never noticed in any scientific reports at hand that squirrels become carnivorous. I would be interested to know if any other naturalist ever saw anything of this kind.

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In the October number of the Ottawa Naturalist in his "Notes on the Species of *Phæocyma* found in Canada," Dr. J. B. Smith stated that he had just finished a revision of all the American forms. This monograph "A Revision of some species of Noctuidæ heretofore referred to the Genus *Homoptera*, Boisduval," has just been published, (Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum, Vol. XXXV, pp. 209-275). This treatise which deals with a group of moths, the members of which have been much confused in collections, will be welcomed with delight by lepidopterists. We are deeply indebted to Dr. Smith for this valuable publication.

It is with very great regret that we have to record the death of Dr. James Fletcher, Entomologist and Botanist of the Dominion Experimental Farms, which occurred at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, on November 8th, 1908, in his 57th year. The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, of which he has been styled "The Father," loses, in his demise, one of its most brilliant and active members. The January issue of the OTTAWA NATURALIST will be a memorial number, and will contain articles on him and his work by prominent members of the Club.
