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for the first time a means for teacher as well as student to determine the family of any North American insect, for here synoptic tables replace the vague characterizations so generally in vogue in Zoology. To bring the tables down to species, as is done so satisfactorily in Botany, as the author remarks, would make the work of enormous length, not to mention the fact that the present state of our knowledge of insects does not warrant such an undertaking. The work seems a very valuable and timely one.

HARRISON G. DYAR.

[We wish to add to the foregoing notice our hearty congratulations to Professor Comstock and his talented wife upon the completion of their excellent work, and our tribute of praise for the thoroughly admirable manner in which they have performed it. It is now a little more than six years since we noticed in these pages the first part of this work, which consisted of 234 pages and 200 wood-cuts; we then stated that "judging from the portion before us, we have no hesitation in saying that the complete work will be a most valuable and admirable manual of Entomology; in clearness and simplicity of style, in excellence of illustration, and in arrangement of matter, it leaves nothing to be desired." This prediction has been most completely fulfilled, the volume before us being, in several respects, even an improvement upon the original publication. The new illustrations are more artistic, and the diagrams of wing-venation and details are clear and accurate; the synoptic tables will afford any painstaking student with satisfactory means of classifying into families any specimens that he collects, while the letter-press and figures will enable him to determine a large number of species. We heartily commend the work to all who are beginning to study Entomology, and we can assure others, who have made some progress in the science, that they will find in it a vast deal of help and information that will prove of the utmost value. We may add that the illustrations consist of 800 wood-cuts and six beautiful full-page plates, the one forming the frontispiece being coloured. The price of the work is so reasonable that it is within the reach of all.

C. J. S. B.]