

## BOOK NOTICE.

AMONG THE MOTHS AND BUTTERFLIES: By Julia P. Ballard. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1890; pp. 237.

This beautiful book is an enlarged and revised edition of "Insect Lives," published 1880, and contains recent studies and many additional illustrations. It treats especially of rearing butterflies, sphinges and moths from the caterpillars, and is based wholly on the personal observations of the author. Without previous knowledge of entomology, Mrs. Ballard found herself attracted by some species of caterpillar, and followed it up to pupa and imago, making original discoveries at every step, and gaining experience day by day, and has become an expert in that line. Many of the species treated of, if their early history is mentioned at all in books, have never been so carefully studied as here; witness the story of the great *Leopard Moth*, the *Bulrush Caterpillar*, the *Monkey-faced Moth*, the *Beechnut Box*, the *Rosy Dryocampa*. Of many others, better known than these, are interesting notes, as *Orgyia leucostigma*, *Deilephila lineata*, *Ceratocampa regalis*. The enthusiasm of the author is contagious, and makes the reader wish that spring would hurry along. I do not know of any book—certainly there is none in America—which has attempted to enter upon the field now taken possession of by Mrs. Ballard. If any good pater, or aunt, or cousin, wishes to do a kind turn to an active boy or girl, they could not do better than put this book in the young person's hands,—at the same time a net and collecting apparatus (which our good friend John Akhurst will be happy to furnish), and bid them, when spring comes, search the fields and woods as Mrs. Ballard has done. The difference between eyes and no eyes is wonderful, and occupying the former will keep young people out of mischief, at least giving them something to do and to think of. Once let a boy put his foot over the threshold of this temple of ours and catch a glimpse of the inner mystery, and there will be no idle and wasted hours. And to this end the author of "Moths and Butterflies" has well served her generation. WM. H. EDWARDS.

\* \* \* Subscribers are respectfully reminded that their subscriptions are now due and should be paid forthwith to the Treasurer. The date to which payment has already been made will be found on the address label.