

condition conducive to a rapid increase of all kinds of vermin. In this country the common bed-bug (*Umeæ lectularis*) is frequently found upon their fur. The entrance of a bat with its precious burden, into the open window of a farm-house, is the solution of that frequently-propounded question of the despairing house-wife, "Where *can* the bugs come from?"

Of individual anecdotes of bats we have but few examples. The following, illustrating the material instinct, is taken from Godman's Nat. Hist., i, 1831, 56. It is narrated by Mr. Titian Peale:—

"In June, 1823, the son of Mr. Gillespie, the keeper of the city square, caught a young red bat (*L. Nov-Eboracensis*), which he took home with him. Three hours afterwards, in the evening, as he was conveying it to the Museum in his hand, while passing near the place where it was caught, the mother made her appearance and followed the boy for two squares, flying around him, and finally alighted on his breast, such was her anxiety to save her offspring. Both were brought to the Museum—the young one firmly adhering to its mother's teat. This faithful creature lived two days in the Museum, and then died of injuries received from her captor. The young one, being but half grown, was still too young to take care of itself, and died shortly after."

Like most specialists in these days, the author has a tendency to form genera and families on very trivial characters, and thus arrives at a classification which, though convenient for reference, is not natural. As a consequence of this, he elevates the bats to the rank of an *Order*, an arrangement which certainly will not accord with any natural division of the class Mammalia.

Of the species described in the work, the following have been recognised at Montreal:

Lasiurus cinereus, Palisot de Beau-	Scotophilus noctivagans, Leconte,
vois, (the Hoary Bat).	(the Silvery-haired Bat).
Lasiurus Nov-Eboracensis, Tomes,	Vespertilis subulatus, Say,
(the Red Bat).	(the Little Brown Bat).

"FLORA OF THE BRITISH WEST-INDIAN ISLANDS." By A. H. R. Grisebach, M.D., Professor of Botany, in the University of Gottingen, London, 1864.

This is one of the Colonial Floras, to which reference has often been made in our pages. It includes all the Phenogamic