

Geometridæ, and *Phlyctænia ferrugalis* and *profundalis*; these two kinds in abundance.

I can recommend this method of collecting to anyone interested in the *Plusiida*; the moths come freely, preferring sunflowers to any other kind of flower that I have grown for this purpose, they are easily taken, and with a minimum of rubbing. Moreover, the seed is cheap and the plants very easily grown anywhere.

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BOOK REVIEWS.

THE LIFE STORY OF INSECTS. By Prof. G. H. Carpenter (Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature), 134 pp., 23 figs. Cambridge University Press. Price, one shilling.

Notwithstanding the existence of numerous entomological books of an elementary character, the treatment of the subject in the present little volume makes it peculiarly suitable to place in the hands of a person having no knowledge of insect life. It does not attempt to accomplish more than "an outline sketch of the facts and meaning of insect transformations," and, in the modest words of its author, the "humble volume will best serve its object if its reading should lead fresh observers to the brookside and woodland." We feel that its object will frequently be served, for it cannot fail to stimulate an interest in an enquiring mind in the study of insect life in its varied forms and it is sure to be the means of directing many a wayfarer's steps into the fascinating paths of entomological enquiry.

After describing the form and growth of insects, the life-histories of certain sucking insects, such as the aphids, are given. The author then passes on to a consideration of the adaptations and transformations of aquatic insects. This leads him to a discussion of the internal changes which accompany metamorphosis. A most readable account of the different larval forms and their adaptations constitutes the longest chapter in the book and the well-chosen illustrations contribute greatly to its clearness. A consideration of the varied pupal forms and their modifications naturally follows. A chapter on the life-story of insects in relation to the seasons succinctly portrays the varied life-cycles in relation to the seasons of the year and to seasonal conditions. The book concludes with an interesting chapter on the past history of insect life. In this the