

The remaining five hundred pages of the volume are devoted to a discussion of the Insects by D. Sharp, M. A., who will require another volume to complete his account of this most prolific of all the classes of animal life. Nearly one hundred pages are occupied by a very complete, although necessarily concise description of the anatomy, embryology and development of insects in general. This is followed by an outline of the classification and it is noted with pleasure that Dr. Sharp has not followed the propensity of some authors to divide the insects into a large number of orders, but has limited them to nine; viz. Aptera, Orthoptera, Neuroptera, Hymenoptera, Coleoptera, Lepidoptera, Diptera, Thysanoptera and Hemiptera. The first order contains Thysanura and Collembola, the little creatures, mostly found in damp localities, known as "springtails." The chapters dealing with the Orthoptera will attract the attention of many readers from the numerous interesting forms which are mentioned, whose great diversity of structure and ornamentation are so well depicted by beautiful illustrations of many of the remarkable genera which inhabit tropical regions. The Neuroptera, though not yielding such strangely developed and fantastic insects, are perhaps more interesting from their greater variety of habit, arising partly from the fact that so many of the species are aquatic in their early stages. This order also contains the familiar Termites, or so-called white ants, in which the social life has developed great variations in the forms and functions of different individuals and results in the construction of sometimes really wonderful erections. Each of these two extensive orders requires about one hundred and fifty pages for its exposition, and the remaining eighty pages treat of the Hymenoptera, (in part), the most interesting in many ways of all the orders of insects.

The portion of the order dealt with in this volume, includes the Sessiliventres (Saw-flies and Horn-tails) and the parasitic families of the Petiolata. Fine illustrations are given of several species which occur at Ottawa such as *Oryssus Sayi*, *Tremex columba*, *Thalessa lunator* and *Pelecinus polyturator*. All the illustrations throughout the volume are most excellent, and the figures, of which there are 371, have been in great measure drawn especially for the work, which is beautifully printed,