
A box of Lepidoptera from Miss Carey, of Amherstburg, was shown by Mr. E. B. Reed, containing some interesting specimens taken in that locality; among others there were fine examples of *Papilio thoas* and *Philampelus satellitia*.

W. Saunders exhibited a box of Coleoptera, embracing a large number of species kindly donated by Theodore L. Mead, Esq., of New York. Also, several boxes of European insects, presented by Francis Walker, Esq., of the British Museum. The Secretary was instructed to tender to Mr. Walker the sincere thanks of the Society for his continued liberality in this matter—the cabinets of the Society and those of the members also having been repeatedly enriched with valuable specimens through his kindness.

OBITUARY.

DR. LECONTE announced the death, at Davidsburg, York Co., Pa., on the 10th March, of Friedrich Ernest Melsheimer, M. D., a correspondent of the Academy, aged nearly ninety-one years. He inherited great taste for entomology from his father, E. F. Melsheimer, a clergyman, who cultivated natural science with much success, and not only was a highly esteemed correspondent of Knoch and other European entomologists of the end of the past and beginning of the present century, but an active collaborator with Say, the founder of descriptive entomology in the United States.

Dr. Melsheimer thus inheriting the tastes and the collection of his father, has preserved, for later investigators, the only authentic types of many of Mr. Say's species; and has also contributed no small proportion of the descriptions of Coleoptera, which appeared up to February, 1847. His memoirs on this subject, containing notes and descriptions of about four hundred and fifty-seven species, were printed in the 2d and 3d vols. of the proceedings of this Academy.

Entomology also owes to him the catalogue of the described Coleoptera of the United States, which, after revision by Prof. S. S. Haldeman and myself, was published by the Smithsonian Institution in 1853. It was the first work of bibliographical importance in the modern history of that branch of science, and gave a powerful impetus to its development in the United States, and has greatly diminished the labor of those who have continued the study of that department.