

with long slender pencils of black hairs. There is a Bombycid moth found in the Eastern States, *Apatelodes torrefacta*, whose larva, judging from Smith & Abbot's drawing, bears a striking resemblance to that of *Apatela americana*. It is also a large moth, and the two may be more closely connected than is at present admitted. One of them is placed in the Noctuidæ, the other in the Bombycidæ, with a number of genera between. The larvæ of the Noctuan genera before *Acronycta*, in their bizarre appearance, also resemble those of the Ptilodontes more than those of the Noctuidæ. Newman states that *Ichthyura (Clostera)* is closely allied to *Cymatophora*, a Noctuid genus, and should be placed near it in a natural classification.

In the small and beautiful sub-family Platyptericidæ, the moths are very like Geometers, their bodies being slender and the wings broad and finely scaled. They also rest with their wings expanded, as many Geometers do.

The last sub-family in the Bombycidæ is so different from the rest in structure, appearance and habits, that it should be separated from them and given the family rank, as in England. These insects, the Hepialidæ, are borers, the larvæ living either in the roots or the stems of plants, and although they make cocoons, these are hidden in the earth or the stem of the plant in which they have fed. In their structure the perfect insects resemble Neuroptera. The body is long and soft, the antennæ small, and the places of attachment of the fore and hind wings to the body widely separated, as in Dragon Flies and other aquatic insects. Both larva and pupa are also different in form from those of the remainder of the Bombycidæ.

The foregoing notes go far to prove that our Family Bombycidæ is at present too comprehensive. A future revision should raise a few of its subdivisions to family rank, which would make the classification more simple and more natural.

BOOK NOTICES.

Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club—Transactions No. 5 (Volume II., No. 1).

The Transactions of this active Club have just been received, and bear testimony to the value of the scientific work which is being done by our Ottawa friends. The number consists of 152 pages, is well printed