

life histories, ecology and seasonal and geographical distribution have been given the attention which they merit and which is necessary for a sound basis of classification. A classification which is not based on morphological characters considered in relation to and together with biological data must of necessity be incomplete. One thing is certain, that only further study of the bionomics of insects will settle the disputes of the "lumpers" and "splitters," to use colloquial but expressive definitions. The present monograph is an admirable illustration of this fact, and were this the only outstanding feature of this most thorough piece of work, the author would deserve the thanks of his entomological confreres. But his complete treatment of what he rightly characterizes as a "neglected group" of insects renders the volume additionally welcome both to entomologists and to those interested in zoögeography,

The monograph may be roughly divided into three sections, namely, taxonomic, bionomic and systematic. Perhaps the most important feature of the section on the taxonomy of the group is the fact that the author calls attention to the necessity of a study not only of a large series but of the colour pattern. The exclusive reliance upon structural features and the neglect to take into consideration the colour pattern has resulted in a "lumping" of species which a study of the natural colours does not support. A very careful study of colour patterns has therefore been made, and the six excellent coloured plates illustrating the same make this section of the work invaluable to the Odonatist.

Perhaps the most interesting, and, to the writer's mind, certainly the most important part of the bionomic section, is that dealing with variation and geographical segregation. If more than a brief reference were attempted here this review would exceed the appointed limits. In this section the author has, as it were, struck a rich metalliferous vein, and we are eager to follow it; it is too rich and promising to be left, and we hope it will be followed up by further investigation. It is found that there occur in the females varieties in colour, in the length of the apparently functionless abdominal appendages and in the depth of the third abdominal segment and further, that there is a distinct correlation between the variations of the last two structures. These variations are dependent to a large extent upon locality, and hence, possibly upon climatic conditions. Here then is an unrivalled field awaiting the attention of the biometrician. Important observations have been made by the author upon the life-history, and his work is made increasingly valuable by the excellent