

FLIGHT OF BUTTERFLIES.

DEAR SIR,—

In the course of the last two or three years several accounts have appeared in *Nature* of flight of Lepidoptera in large numbers. I observed a similar phenomenon in 1870, which may present sufficient interest to be put on record. In the summer of that year, in the month of August as well as I remember, I was crossing the harbor of this city in the 3 p. m. trip of the stem-packet boat between the city and Moultrieville, on Sullivan's Island, at the entrance of the harbor, a summer resort of the inhabitants of our city. The distance is between four and five miles, and when about half way or perhaps two-thirds, the steamer passed through an immense stream of butterflies crossing the harbor towards the S. W. They were all of the genus *Callidryas*, whether *C. eubule* or *C. marcellina* (if indeed they be different species) I could not determine. The wind was light, and from the rapid motion of the vessel, it was difficult to say whether the insects were aided or opposed by it in their transit. As the vessel passed obliquely through the stream, their rate of motion could not be determined, and the dimensions of the stream only roughly estimated; it seemed to be six or eight yards wide, about as many high, and extended an hundred yards or more on each side of the vessel. Whence they came or whither they went could not be ascertained; they seemed to be crossing the harbor in a direction nearly parallel to the general travel of the coast.

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NOTES AND QUERIES.

DEAR SIR,—

I notice in the February number of the ENTOMOLOGIST some notes by Mr. Mundt, of Fairbury, Ill., in which he mentions breeding wood-boring insects. If Mr. Mundt and some other entomologists would give some information on the mode of keeping such insects, I am sure it would be most acceptable to the "Beginners in Entomology." Breeding specimens is of course one of the most important branches of the science which treats of their study, and heretofore very little has been done I believe with the wood-borers. I frequently find larvæ of Buprestidæ and Cerambycidæ in splitting cordwood, but so far I have signally failed to rear any of them. They either dry up or are attacked by mould. I think the chief points requiring attention are the temperature and the amount of moisture and air.

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