

and when the branch is eaten through the larva continues its feeding in forming a tunnel through that portion of the branch which is cut off from the supply of sap.

The instinct of insects is wonderful enough, and more accurate perhaps than a mental process, but while we justly ascribe to them all the attributes pertaining to their natural gift, we are not warranted in imputing to them an intelligence only to be arrived at through a course of reason.

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### BOOK NOTICE.

THE BUTTERFLIES OF NEW ENGLAND, with original Descriptions, accompanied by eight lithographic Plates, in which are given at least two hand-colored Figures of each Species. By C. J. Maynard. Boston, Bradlee Whidden, 1886.

The author of this work is a well-known taxidermist and ornithologist, who here endeavors "to present recognisable figures and intelligible descriptions of the Butterflies," etc. The drawings and descriptions, he says, are original, but he has been obliged to compile descriptions of the larva and pupa from works of various authors, and is indebted to such works for many notes upon habits, distribution, etc.

He has coined a new set of names for the veins of the wings, and likewise a set of English names for the several species. No authority follows the specific names in the text, but those "who are curious to learn who first described any given species, can ascertain by referring to an Index," etc. He sees no reason why polymorphic forms, which he calls "phases of coloration," should receive names, and in this connection thinks that entomologists have overlooked the results of an important law, that of reversion. The classification adopted is that used in the arrangement of the collection of the Boston Soc. N. Hist., "merely because of its simplicity," and hence the series begins with the Satyridæ, and Papilio stands next the Hesperidæ. By all which it will be seen that the author has ideas of his own, but is not very well read in the recent literature of lepidopterology.

The plates are described as hand-colored, and it seems to be implied that the coloring therefore is something superior. Whereas it is very bad indeed—could not well be worse. This is conspicuously so in *Limenitis*,