

BOOK NOTICES.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS: REPORTS FOR 1892. Printed by order of Parliament: Ottawa, 1893.

This valuable "Blue-book" has been before us for some time, having been distributed in April last, but various circumstances have prevented us from noticing it and several other publications, for which we are indebted to the courtesy of the authors. Our readers will, of course, be chiefly interested in the report of Mr. James Fletcher, the Entomologist and Botanist of the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, which occupies twenty-four pages of the volume. After mentioning the chief insect attacks of the year, Mr. Fletcher gives an interesting and valuable account of the life-histories of the Hop-vine Borer (*Hydracia inmanis*, Guén.), the Red Turnip-beetle (*Entomoscelis adonidis*, Fab.), the Western Blister-beetle (*Cantharis Nuttalli*, Say), and the Birch Bucculatrix (*B. Canadensisella*, Chamb.); in these there is much new and original matter, as well as a summary of the previous observations of others. The identification of the hop insect, which is also called, from its mode of attack, the "Collar-worm of the Hop," is particularly interesting. Its injuries have been observed for more than twenty years, but it was a long time before the moth was reared from the destructive larvæ and its identity established. The most effective remedy for this insect appears to be the encouragement of the unsavory skunk in the hop-yards; in the northern part of the State of New York and in Wisconsin, this animal has been found most useful from its habit of digging round the infested plants and devouring the worms. The turnip and blister-beetles referred to have been very destructive in the Northwest Territories, the latter attacking the Windsor Bean, while the Birch Bucculatrix has infested the trees in the neighbourhood of Ottawa. Mr. Fletcher also describes several useful parasites which serve to keep in check the currant and willow saw-flies and other injurious insects. The remainder of his report is devoted to an account of the potato-blight which affects the leaves of the plant, and the potato-rot affecting the tubers, and a chapter on lawn grasses and fodder plants.

CATALOGUE OF THE LEPIDOPTEROUS SUPER-FAMILY NOCTUIDÆ FOUND IN BOREAL AMERICA: By John B. Smith, Sc. D.: (Bulletin No. 44 of the United States National Museum). Smithsonian Institution, Washington, 1893.

This volume of four hundred and twenty-four pages will be heartily welcomed by every student of the Noctuidæ of North America. It is not a mere list of species, but a complete bibliographical and synonymical