

RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS OF WOODLAND, FEN AND HILL; AND WOODSIDE, BURNSIDE, HILLSIDE AND MARSH: By J. W. Tutt, Editor of the *Entomologists' Record and Journal of Variation*. London: Swan, Sonnenschein & Co.

The name of the author of these two volumes must be familiar to our readers as an occasional contributor to our pages, while he is widely known as a writer of much scientific repute on matters concerning the lepidoptera. In these two books he has assumed a lighter and more popular role; his aim has been—to quote his own words—“to bring under the notice of the general public, in readable and untechnical language, a few of the interesting phenomena which are to be observed everywhere around us by those who take the trouble to look for them, and to give such explanations of their causes as may easily be understood even by those whose scientific knowledge is small.” He has certainly carried out his design most successfully and given to the world two very charming and interesting books on out-of-doors natural history. Any one, whether young or old, who takes any pleasure in the beauties of nature and any interest in the varied world of animal and vegetable life, will read them with the greatest delight and follow the author with unflagging interest during his rambles over hill and dale, and by marsh and burn and fen. In the former work more attention is paid to the habits and variations of insects, while the latter treats of any animal or plant that may be met with in expeditions to widely different localities. Amusing episodes and pretty bits of verse enliven the volumes, and many capital pictures render the later one still more attractive.

C. J. S. B.

REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE NEW JERSEY AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXPERIMENT STATION: By John B. Smith, Sc.D., for the year 1893.

It is obviously impossible to notice all the ever-welcome bulletins and reports that constantly flow from the various experimental stations throughout North America, for copies of which we are very grateful to their authors. We may, however, call attention to Dr. Smith's excellent departure from the ordinary report. After giving the usual general review of the season, and an account of the most important insect attacks of the year, he devotes a large portion of his work to a most useful and admirable account of the “Beneficial Insects” in all the different orders. It is clearly and plainly written, so as to be within the comprehension of non-entomologists, and is profusely illustrated with excellent figures, many of them being new reproductions by means of photography. It ought to be widely distributed, in order to teach the general public that a very large proportion of insects are not noxious, and should not be wantonly destroyed. C. J. S. B.

REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGIST AND BOTANIST (JAMES FLETCHER, F.R.S.C., F.L.S.), Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, 1894.

Mr. Fletcher's Reports are always interesting and valuable; and the present record of the chief insect attacks of last year, and his observations upon them, is not less so than its predecessors. The season of 1893, as far as destructive insects were concerned, was only remarkable for the superabundance of locusts (grasshoppers), and the consequent damage inflicted upon oats and many other field and garden crops. Other attacks were for the most part of the familiar kinds which we have always with us; these are briefly mentioned in the Report, while more attention is paid to the serious injury caused to grain crops in Manitoba and the North West by cut-worms, the ravages of locusts, granary insects at the Chicago Exhibition, the horn-fly, etc. Very interesting accounts are also given of *Silpha bituberosa*, which attacks vegetables in the North West Territories; and *Polyphylia decemlineata*, which was very injurious to shrubs of various kinds in a nursery at Victoria, B.C.

In the Botanical section of the Report there are two papers especially noteworthy: those, namely, on “Grass for the protection of shores and harbors,” and on the “Tumble-weeds” of the North West. The pamphlet is illustrated by a handsome full page picture of Mr. Fletcher's grass plots at the Experimental Farm, which are full of interest to every visitor; and thirty wood-cuts. It is gratifying to observe how steadily the author's reputation is growing, and how highly his work has come to be appreciated from one end of the Dominion to the other.

C. J. S. B.

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