

BOOK NOTICES.

THE ORTHOPTERA OF INDIANA.—By W. S. Blatchley, State Geologist, Indianapolis, Ind. From the 27th Annual Report of the Department of Geology and Natural Resources of Indiana, 1902. One Vol., 8vo., pp. 123 to 471.

No one better qualified than the author of this work could possibly be found to prepare a handbook of the Orthoptera of Indiana, and admirably he has performed his self-imposed task. For nearly twenty years he has been a close observer and student of the insects of this order and has published many papers of both a systematic and descriptive character upon them. Several of these have appeared from time to time in the pages of this magazine. The book contains the results of his investigations and studies, and is designed to impart a full and clear knowledge of this important group of insects to school pupils and young people on the farm. Certainly anyone desiring to study the order, whether living in Indiana or Ontario, or any of the neighbouring States, will find his way made easy by this work, and will learn without much difficulty how to distinguish the species and what their life-histories and characteristics are.

The opening pages of the book give a full and clear account of the external anatomy of a Locust, the natural enemies of the Orthoptera, and a bibliography of the more important books and papers on the order. The main portion of the volume is termed "A Descriptive Catalogue of the Orthoptera Known to Occur in Indiana." Convenient keys are given to the families, genera and species, facilitating the identification of a specimen, and these are followed in each case by scientific descriptions, the synonymy, geographical distribution and other information; in the case of the Locusts especially the accounts of the habits of the species are very full and interesting. The work is rendered complete by a chapter on the Life-zones of the State as illustrated by the distribution of the Orthoptera, a glossary of the terms used and a full index. There are over 120 excellent figures in the text, largely taken from Luggers Orthoptera of Minnesota, and a beautiful coloured plate of the remarkable pink variety of the Oblong-winged Katydid (*Amblycorypha oblongifolia*).