

CORRESPONDENCE.

The members of the Club are informed that the course of study in Insect Life will commence in the January number of the *Scientist*. As collecting will not commence before May to any extent, the time until then will be taken up by preparatory papers giving instructions for collecting, mounting, preserving, kind and size of cases, mode of exchanging, etc. These will be followed by a series of papers extending over the time of the Course, in which time the subject ought to be in a manner completed. Occasional notes of interest to entomologists will appear, or possibly an entomological corner may be set apart for notes and queries. The members will kindly recollect that the pleasure of replying to these questions and helping them on is the chief motive in undertaking this department, and they must not hesitate to ask. Address—

J. E. WHITE,
Toronto, Ont.

THE BURIED FERN.

NEAR the edge of a forest years ago,
There grew a dainty fern, green and slender,
Vining delicate and fibre tender.

Waved by the gentle breezes to and fro;
The mosses, velvet green, grew around it,
The daylight's brightest beam sought and found it,

The night brought its gems of dew and crowned it,

The foot of man had never been that way,
Earth there was young and in solitude lay.

The earth grew cold. One day a thoughtful man,

Searching for Nature's secrets far and wide,
From a deep fissure in a deep hillside,

Withdrew a stone over which there ran,

Fairy pencilings of quaint design,
Of pinnae, veins and fibres clear and fine,

Lo! here the fern again in every line.

How strange it is that I may read to-day,
On this stone, of what has passed away.

THE question of how insects are able to walk on vertical glass surfaces has been studied anew by Dr. Dewitz. He examined with the microscope the feet of flies when walking on glass, and found that the hairs of the feet emit a transparent fluid by means of which they are enabled to adhere to the glass.

In cases where the hairs were absent he saw the fluid exude from pores in the foot. In some of the beetles he studied the structure of the glands furnishing this secretion and found them unicellular, each communicating with a hair and furnished with a minute nerve.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Every subscriber has the privilege of inserting in this department one notice, not exceeding five lines, each year. Beyond that, for non-subscribers, the charge is five cents a line.

For Land or F. W. Shells, named or un-named, from the Maritime Provinces, will exchange fine Unios and Limnææ. Correspondence invited. F. R. LATCHFORD.
Ottawa, Ont.

Look over your old letters and send to me the old issues of postage stamps of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, P. E. Island, Newfoundland, Canada, and revenue stamps. Highest price given in stamp exchange or cash.

H. N. JOHNSON,
Coeymans, N. Y., U. S. A.

A fine collection of minerals, large size, worth \$100, to exchange for a second-hand job printing press with accompaniments. Correspondence invited.

A. J. PINÉO,
Wolfville, N. S.

God writes the Gospel, not in the Bible alone, but on trees and flowers, on the clouds and stars.—*Luther*.

The heart that is soonest awake to the flowers
Is always the first to be touched.

Moore.