

BOOK NOTICES.

Descriptions of Noctuidæ, chiefly from California, by A. R. Grote. Extracted from the Bulletin of United States Geological and Geographical Survey; large 8vo., pp. 18, containing descriptions of thirty-three new species, chiefly of *Agrotis* and *Hadena*.

New Tineina from Texas, Food Plants of Tineina, and Index to the Described Tineina of the U. S. and Canada, by V. T. Chambers; also from the Bulletin of the U. S. Survey; large 8vo., pp. 88. In this pamphlet there are forty-two new species described. A catalogue of the food plants of the Tineina of America, as far as they are known, is given, followed by a very complete and useful index embracing all the described American species.

President's Address before the Appalachian Mountain Club, by Sam'l H. Scudder. Reprinted from Appalachia, Vol. 1, No. 4; large 8vo., pp. 32. Our thanks are tendered the several authors of the above for their kindness in sending us copies of these pamphlets.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PIERIS VERNALIS AND P. PROTODICE.

DEAR SIR,—

In confirmation of Mr. Bean's conclusions, as given in the November number, I would state that I have long known *vernalis* to be but the spring form of *protodice*, and believe I so wrote to Mr. Edwards some time ago. What is probably the first record of this opinion will be found in my 9th Report on the Insects of Missouri (p. 57). My experience accords with Mr. Bean's as to there being every possible gradation between the extreme *vernalis* form and the typical *protodice*. What is true of these two supposed species will, I am confident, be found to be equally true of several other of Mr. Edwards' described species, especially in *Colias*; but no one perhaps is more willing to admit the fact at present than Mr. Edwards himself, or is doing more by careful breeding to decrease the number of his own species.

C. V. RILEY, St. Louis, Mo.

DEAR SIR,—

Having been requested some years ago by Prof. Just, of Carlsruhe, to co-operate in the annual botanical review, I have now agreed to take upon myself the preparation of a report in reference to those vegetable excrescences known as galls, produced by insects.

The greatest difficulty in this work arises from the fact that the literature treating on the subject is scattered throughout a great number of works and various journals, of which we find only a part in our libraries; also, those which we possess, and particularly the later publications, are often of difficult access. It is therefore quite impossible to write a complete report if the editors do not send us the various papers which issue from the press. You or your readers will oblige me greatly by sending copies of any writings in reference to galls which have appeared since 1875, as well as those which may be published from time to time. Parties sending extracts from journals will please add the date of publication. As an equivalent I shall be happy to send to any one helping me copies of my own writings on this subject.

DR. F. A. W. THOMAS.

Ohrdruf, near Gotha, 14th Sept., 1877.

[We trust that our readers will do what they can to aid Prof. Thomas in this matter.—Ed. C. E.]

I have the pleasure of noting the capture, June 23rd, of a fine specimen of the very rare Geometrid, *Eubyja quernaria* Smith & Abb.; it was taken resting on the trunk of a Hickory tree. Early in September I took sixteen specimens of *Aspilates Lintneraria* Pack., among which were several perfect examples of the female. It is an exceedingly variable species, scarcely two specimens being alike. The females were submitted to Dr. Packard, who determined them as the *liberaria* of Walker.

L. W. GOODELL, Amherst, Mass.

I have found *Melitaea phaeton* in large numbers this season in a large swamp on the east side of Mt. Tom, four miles from Holyoke; also *M. Harrisii* in the same locality. Since the middle of August up to the present time I have found over 300 larvæ of *Deilephila lineata* feeding on Purslane. They seem to be very plentiful this year; never found but a few before.

JOSEPH E. CHASE.

Holyoke, Mass., Sept. 20, 1877.