

to coleopterous larvae. It is to be hoped that Dr. Fritsch will amply illustrate these remains in his great work now in progress on the Fauna der gaskohle Böhmens.

It is well to draw attention to two admirable brief illustrated papers published last year by Ch. Janet on *Myrmica rubra*, one on the morphology of the skeleton and especially of the postthoracic segment (Mém. soc. acad. de l'Oise, xv), the other on the anatomy of the petiole (Mém. soc. zool. France, 1894). We regret we have not space for a full analysis of each, but they will be found of great interest to morphologists and hymenopterists. The clear illustrations are pretty sure to find their way into text books.

The annual presidential address before the Entomological society of London by Capt. H. J. Elwes is on the geographical distribution of butterflies and deals largely with those of North America.

Dr. Ph. Bertkau announces that his health obliges him to give up the admirable annual review of entomology which has appeared in the Archiv für naturgeschichte since 1838 under different editors — Erichson, Schaum, Gerstaecker, Brauer and Bertkau. Entomologists are under great obligations to Dr. Bertkau for the excellence of his summaries, their completeness and the promptness with which they have appeared. A still prompter method of rapid publication in all branches of biology is now being planned which is at the same time a practical combination of all the current reviews — a consummation devoutly to be wished and helped forward.

M. Emile Blanchard was retired November last from the chair of entomology at the Jardin des Plantes, on account of age; his first entomological paper was published nearly seventy years ago; his successor has not yet been announced.

Fire has committed ravages with our entomologists this winter. Mr. J. G. Jack lost his library and collection in Jamaica Plain by the destruction of the building in which they were kept; Prof. C. H. Tyler Townsend lost his valuable dipterological library

(nearly complete for America and very full for Europe) by the burning of the warehouse at Las Cruces, N. Mex., while he was absent for a few weeks at Washington; and now comes news that Rev. C. J. S. Bethune's school at Port Hope, Ont., has been burnt to the ground; his loss is estimated at eighty thousand dollars.

Prof. C. H. T. Townsend's address is changed to Brownsville, Texas, where he is working for the entomological division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. His correspondents should send him new sets of their publications.

#### PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB.

11 January, 1895. The 185th regular and 18th annual meeting (since incorporation) was held at 156 Brattle St. Mr. S. H. Scudder in the chair.

The annual reports of the officers were read and accepted.

In accordance with the recommendation of the executive committee it was voted that the treasurer be authorized to sell all the non-entomological and duplicate books now in the library, and such as may hereafter be acquired and apply the proceeds to the payment of the deficit on vol. 5 of Psyche until the same shall have been paid.

The following officers for 1895 were elected: President, C. M. Weed of Durham, N. H.; secretary, R. Hayward; treasurer, S. Henshaw; librarian, S. H. Scudder; members at large of the executive committee, A. P. Morse and S. H. Scudder.

Mr. S. H. Scudder exhibited specimens of the cat-flea taken in Cambridge and two species of *Scapteriscus* taken in southern Florida by Mrs. A. T. Slosson and the late Mr. Morrison. It is the first time this genus of mole crickets has been recognized within the limits of the United States; the species appeared to be closely allied to, but apparently distinct from *S. mexicanum* (Burm.) and *S. abbreviatus* Scudd., the latter a Brazilian species.

Mr. Scudder also made some remarks upon the orthopteran genus *Podisma* Latr., going to show that it should supplant *Pezotettix* as now used, and that *Pezotettix* should take the place of *Platyphyma*.

Mr. A. G. Mayer remarked that he had treated the dark greenish fluid of the alimentary tract of the pupae of *Telea polyphemus* with nitric acid which had reacted upon it, changing its color to dull red, about the same shade as the ground color of the wings of *Danaïs archippus*; when treated with a strong alkali, such as caustic potash, its color changed to dark brown. His enquiry if it was known whether any of the pigments were derived from this fluid led to some discussion.

Mr. Scudder recalled to the club the enlarged figure of the chrysalis of a species of *Spalgis* from Africa published by Dr. Holland in the last volume of *Psyche*, which bore a striking resemblance to an ape's face; and in connection therewith he exhibited a plate of an Indian species of the same genus since figured by Aitken in the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* in which

the resemblance was even more remarkable. This *Spalgis* was also aphidivorous in the larval stage.

Mr. A. P. Morse showed a specimen of *Panchlora viridis* taken at Wellesley, Mass., on Dec. 12, 1894, and also specimens of a species of *Scirtes* which he had taken abundantly on grape vines at Sherborn, Mass., in July last.

Mr. Scudder stated that he had received this cockroach many years ago from the late Dr. S. Kneeland, taken flying in a Boston store on Dec. 26, 1878; he had also recorded its capture with the young in the bath room of a house on Lafayette Sq., Salem, Mass., Aug. 1, 1890, through Prof. E. S. Morse; and as indicating how it reached such northern localities it is worth recording that it was taken in March, 1891, by Prof. Roland Thaxter on the steamship *Adirondack* while on her passage from Jamaica to New York.

Mr. Mayer said that a single specimen of *Danaïs archippus* came on shipboard about Sept. 20, 1894, while he was cruising on the banks near Sable Island.

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