

VENTURESOME INSECTS.—Mr. Webster's note in the NEWS for November, p. 232, on the behavior of *Pyrameis atalanta*, recalls the fact that I made the same observation at Wallingford, Delaware County, Pa., in 1881 and 1882. Late in sunny Summer afternoons, about 5.30 o'clock, or even later, one or sometimes more individuals of *P. atalanta* appeared day after day, at nearly the same spot in an orchard lawn. Sometimes they alighted upon persons, more often upon the trees or the ground. I have noticed the same phenomena in this species in later years, but cannot now specify the times and places. Among dragonflies, the only similar occurrence that I can now recall, is that of some males of *Plathemis trimaculata* repeatedly alighting upon my gray flannel shirt, late one afternoon, while I was watching them in a clearing in the woods at Folsom, Pa. The bluish white color of their abdomens at first suggested that their alighting upon my shirt was an instance of protective resemblance, but I doubt that such was the case.--PHILIP P. CALVERT.

TO DR. ROBERT H. LAMBORN, the public is indebted for an effort made a few years since toward discovering a method for exterminating mosquitoes. Although many months of research and experiment resulted in no apparent abatement of the nuisance, still it is not improbable that the future may bring to the notice of entomologists some predatory insect which may be utilized as a mosquito annihilator. The higher development of useful domestic insects has long been the study of agriculturists, and has been as important a factor in economics as the limitless effort to resist the noxious parasite.

Among the many insects indispensable to man are the cochineal bug, the silk worm and the honey bee; to the latter Dr. Lamborn's attention has recently turned, doubtless with a view to bringing about the advent of the much-talked-of "Coming Bee."

Although apiculture is the oldest economic pursuit, it is only within the last century that much scientific thought has been directed to the perfection of the stock. Much has been accomplished in the line of developing a gentler bee, but at the expense of other qualities. To evolve an ideal bee some points must be considered which have hitherto been overlooked. A combination of desirable points of various races and an elimination of objections must require much patience, time and money.

CARRIE B. AARON.

A CHANGE IN THE NAME OF A RECENTLY-DESCRIBED SPECIES OF ORCHELIMUM.—Recently, while examining a small collection of New Jersey Orthoptera which had been sent to me by Prof. John B. Smith, of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, for determination, a pair of small *Orchelimum* were encountered which agree in every respect with Harris' description and figure of *Orchelimum gracilis* as given in "Insects Injurious to Vegetation," edition of 1863, p. 163, fig. 78. By referring to "Materials for a Monograph of the Orthoptera of N. America" by Samuel H. Scudder, it will be seen that on page 451 this insect of Harris' is made a synonym of De Geer's *Locusta fusciata*, which is the

*Xiphidium fasciatum* of Serville and later writers. It is quite possible that Mr. Scudder did not have typical specimens of the insect in question at hand when he was working over the material upon which he based his decision of the synonymy of names. At any rate the two insects are quite distinct, as the specimens before me very plainly indicate, and therefore Harris' name should be restored to the insect which originally bore it.

In this connection it might be well for me to go a little further and correct an error which I fell into by accepting this synonymy as made out by the author referred to above. In an article published in the "Canadian Entomologist" for April, 1891, on page 70, I described as new a species of *Orchelimum* from Nebraska, for which I chose the name *gracile*. Now, that this name has been ascertained to rightfully belong to another species of the genus, my insect's name will necessarily have to be changed. I therefore suggest for it the name *delicatum*, suggestive of its general delicate structure and appearance.

In my article above referred to I have also unintentionally allowed the name *lanceolatum* to appear where that of *attenuatum* should have been used instead. This error occurred on account of my having described one of Mr. Scudder's species as new under this name, but afterwards found out my error in time to make the correction in the paper where the description occurs before it was printed, but did not do so in the notes which follow.—LAWRENCE BRUNER, Nebraska State University.

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### Identification of Insects (Imagos) for Subscribers.

Specimens will be named under the following conditions: 1st, The number of specimens to be unlimited for each sending; 2d, The sender to pay all expenses of transportation and the insects to become the property of the American Entomological Society; 3d, Each specimen must have a number attached so that the identification may be announced accordingly. Exotic species named only by special arrangement with the Editor, who should be consulted before specimens are sent. Send a 2 cent stamp with all insects for return of names. Before sending insects for identification, read page 41, Vol. III. Address all packages to ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS, Academy Natural Sciences, Logan Square, Philadelphia, Pa.

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### Entomological Literature.

BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, iv, pp. 167, *et seq.*, New York, 1892.—List of types of Lepidoptera in the [Henry] Edwards Collection of Insects [now in this Museum.] W. Beutenmüller.

BULLETTINO DELLA SOCIETA ENTOMOLOGICA ITALIANA, xxiv, 2, Florence, Sept. 15, 1892.—Contributions to the dipterological fauna of the province of Pavia, II, M. Bezzi. Contributions to the study of the Brentidæ.\*† xii, A. Senna. On grasshoppers in the low Florentine plain. *Aonidia Blanchardi* n. sp. of Coccidæ from the date palm of the Sahara, A. Targioni Tozzetti, figs.