

He joined the South London Entomological and Natural History Society in 1922 and was a member of the Verrall Supper. Many of his acquaintances, due to his unassuming manner, were unaware of his marvellous athletic achievements and his wide and varied interests, and he will be sadly missed by his numerous friends who held him in high esteem.—A. DE B.G.

Erich Wasmann, S.J., Hon. F.E.S.

Erich Wasmann, S.J., died on February 23rd, 1931, at the Jesuit Collège in Valkenburg, Holland, in his 72nd year. He was born on May 29th, 1859, at Meran in the Tyrol, where his earliest years were spent.

His father, Friedrich Wasmann, an accomplished artist, was a pupil of the celebrated painter Overbeck at the Nazarene School in Rome. Both Wasmann's father and mother—Elizabeth Krämer an excellent wife and mother—came from Hamburg. We may mention that he told us personally he had an English grandmother. He received his higher education in the Jesuit College "Stella matutina" in Feldkirch, and on September 28th, 1875, he became a novice of the Society of Jesus at Exaeten, Holland.

It was in Holland that his serious lung trouble, which afflicted him all his life, first made its appearance. At an early age he was attracted to the study of Entomology, and wherever he was sent, for his health, etc.—Prag, Luxemburg, etc., etc.—he seized the opportunity to add to the knowledge of natural history and especially his chief study, the ants and their guests. He has left nearly 300 works to his credit, dealing especially with Myrmecophiles and Termitophiles, but also on psychological problems, etc. On account of his beliefs he was naturally an opponent of Darwin, and others, especially Haeckel.

Space will not allow us to discuss his various writings here, but we may mention that he made numerous discoveries in the life histories of the myrmecophiles, etc., and also described very many new species from all over the world. He was a good draftsman, and an expert in micro-photography. If we have not always agreed with his theories, we must acknowledge that they were always worthy of study and attention.

His collections, writings, and scientific apparatus, etc., are to be kept together and known as the "Wasmannian Museum," for the benefit of future students. Finally one may mention some of the honours bestowed upon him:—Hon. member of the Grand Ducal Institute of Luxemburg; one of the 40 actual members of the Accademia Pontif dei Nuovo Lincei; Doctor phil. nat honoris causa Freiburg-Schw. University; hon. member of the Niederlandischen Entomolog. Vereins; of the Société Scientifique de Bruxelles; of the Société Entomologique de Belgique; of the Entomological Society of London (for which we had the honour to propose him in 1911); of the Spanish Entomolog. Society; the German Ent. Soc.; the Brazilian Ent. Soc.; the Zoological and Botanical Society of Vienna; the Ent. Soc. of Normandy; the Society of nature-friends in Luxemburg; and the Nature Knowledge Society of Freiburg.—HORACE DONISTHORPE.

race *interoceanica*, Smith, *Trans. Am. Ent. S.* XXVI. 17 (1899).

ORIG. DESCRIP.—“Look like small dark examples of *nictitans*. Smaller, darker than *nictitans*, reniform is uniformly white marked. Orbicular round in all specimens, considerably paler and more yellowish than the ground colour but without any trace of white markings. Ground colour a very dark smoky brown, the ordinary markings almost blackish.” Winnipeg.

Hamp. *Cat. Lep. Ph.* IX. 28 (1910), “Forewing browner.”—W. Canada.

conjuncta, Splr. *Schm. Eur.*, I. 214 (1906).

ORIG. DESCRIP.—“With the yellowish margined orbicular united to the reniform stigma.”—A ♀.

[The above forms are all given under *nictitans*. Possibly some of them may eventually be allotted to the species which have been separated from *nictitans*.]

In fact *americana* (*atlantica*), *pacifica* and *interoceanica*, indistinguishable by any stable characteristics from *nictitans*, have been separated as structural or genitalic species. At any rate they are the representatives of the Palaearctic *nictitans* in the Nearctic Region, and if not of specific status must undoubtedly be recognised as subspecies, if other characters are eventually found to support the genitalic differences.

lucens, Fr.: *paludis*, Tutt: *crinanensis*, Brs.

Continental entomologists seem to have known practically nothing of either *paludis* or *crinanensis*, while in this country our authorities are equally in ignorance, notably South in *Moths of the British Isles*, who merely mentions the saltern or marsh form of *nictitans* the *paludis* of Tutt, and refers to large specimens found in marshes by the sea, without giving a name, presumably referring to *lucens*. He however gives figures of ♂ and ♀ *paludis*, but says of these forms, “I cannot see that they otherwise differ from forms of *nictitans*.”

Hampson omits mention of *paludis* and *crinanensis* and puts *lucens* as an ab. of *nictitans*.

Meyrick, *Hed.*, admits all three as true species.

Of *paludis*, Warren-Seitz says, “Differs from *nictitans* in the apex of forewing being less produced, the outer margin thereby appearing less oblique; in ground colour it would appear to vary from light to dark forms as much as *nictitans* itself, but all that I have seen have been dark; it may at once be separated by the narrowness of the reniform stigma, the inner edge of which is darkened and hardly distinguishable from the brown ground colour; the reniform occurs of both colours, white and orange, but the narrowness is more noticeable in the former case.”

Warr.-Seitz gives ♂ and ♀ figures of *paludis*, the former with white reniform, the latter with orange reniform; both figures have dark ground colour, and the ♀ is considerably the larger.

Warren-Seitz puts *lucens* as a form of *nictitans*; he says, “*lucens*, Fr. resembles *nictitans*, but is larger, and with the ground, as a rule, pale and the reniform white.”

The species *crinanensis* is not recognised by Warren-Seitz.

The following analysis of the genitalic characteristics abstracted from Pierce and Burrows and classified comparatively may be useful.