

THE
ENTOMOLOGISTS'
MONTHLY MAGAZINE:

CONDUCTED BY

C. G. BARRETT.

E. C. RYE, F.Z.S.

J. W. DOUGLAS.

E. SAUNDERS, F.L.S.

R. McLACHLAN, F.R.S.

H. T. STAINTON, F.R.S.

VOL. XVII.

"In relation to the human mind Nature is boundless; and though nowhere
inaccessible, she is everywhere unfathomable."

HUXLEY.



↑
LONDON:

JOHN VAN VOORST, 1, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1880-81.

Otiorrhynchus ligustici, &c., in the Isle of Man.—The following species of *Coleoptera*, found by myself near Ramsey during the last week of August this year, have not, so far as I can gather, been previously recorded from the Isle of Man: *Blethisa multipunctata*, *Amara patricia*, *Philonthus fucicola*, *Otiorrhynchus ligustici*. *Dianthus* was plentiful in waterfalls, but I looked in vain for *Stenus Guynemeri* and *Quedius auricomus*. In fact, beetles of every kind were extremely scarce.—W. G. BLATCH, Green Lane, Smallheath, Birmingham: September 20th, 1880.

Prosopistoma punctifrons.—My colleagues, MM. Joly and Vayssière, in announcing, with justifiable pride, the discovery of the perfect insect of *Prosopistoma* (in the Comptes Rendus of the French Academy, and elsewhere), attribute to me the former possession of an opinion that the insect might be an Ephemeropterid suited for a continuous aquatic life. I am not sensible of having published such an opinion, nor of having held it. In my remarks on *Oniscigaster Wakefieldi*, in the Journal of the Linnean Society of London, vol. xii (Zoology), p. 145, foot-note (1873), I asked, "Can there be apterous Ephemeropterids? and can the imago of *Prosopistoma* be in that condition?" It did not occur to me that these words could be so translated as to bear the interpretation put upon them by MM. Joly and Vayssière. In congratulating my colleagues on their discovery, it is necessary to say that I make this explanation solely because certain of my correspondents ask me where I have published the opinion attributed to me.—R. McLAUCHLAN, Lewisham, London: 9th September, 1880.

Reviews.

SOUVENIRS ENTOMOLOGIQUES: ÉTUDES SUR L'INSTINCT ET LES MŒURS DES INSECTES: par J. H. FABRE: Paris, 1879. 324 pp., 8vo.

In this volume the author gives the results of his own assiduous observation, during many years, of the instincts and habits of many European *Hymenoptera* and of *Scarabeus sacer*. An account of the Mason-bee is prefaced by an excellent story of the way in which Natural Philosophy was once taught in a certain College; there is also a chapter on "La chasse aux Diptères;" and another chapter is devoted to a dramatic recital of the perilous incidents of an ascent of Mont Ventoux in Provence, for natural history exploration—an adventure that narrowly escaped having a tragic termination. All these studies, as the author terms them, are full of novelty and are extremely interesting to the entomologist and physiologist, whether or not we follow the reasoning or admit the conclusions. The charm of the writing is irresistible: we give an extract on another page, but to be fully appreciated, the narratives should be read in the original, for much of the *esprit* evaporates in translation. The work is heartily to be commended to the attention of those who love entomology pure and simple.

Four species are described as new—*Cerceris Antonia*, *Cerceris Julii*, *Bombex Julii*, and *Ammophila Julii*:—the first dedicated to his daughter, the other three, in a few pathetic words, to the memory of his deceased young son, in whom a promising love of flowers and insects was early developed.