

This was, I believe, until a comparatively recent period the view universally held by Entomologists. In the First Annual Report of the U. S. Ent. Com. relating to the Rocky Mountain Locust, published in 1878, Mr. Riley states that he has found the larva of this species, *E. pennsylvanica*, along with those of other species of the same genus, feeding on the egg masses of the Rocky Mountain Locust, *Caloptenus spretus*, and has bred the perfect insect therefrom. This statement had escaped my notice.

WM. SAUNDERS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. HAGEN'S MYSTERY.

DEAR SIR,—

My writings on *Pronuba yuccasella* have induced considerable discussion and comment, both from horticulturists and entomologists. Many of the criticisms of my conclusions are unworthy of notice and have not been noticed by me; but the note from Dr. Hagen in your July number cannot be passed in silence. Just as I had, in the June and July numbers of the *American Entomologist*, dispelled much of the "mystery" regarding this little moth and shown that the conflicting experiences were due to the confounding, by my critics, of another species (*Prodoxus decipiens*) with it, Dr. Hagen increases the "mystery" by his statements in the note referred to. His statements are positive and circumspect, but I am as fully satisfied that he has in some way made a mistake as I am that others have been mistaken who wrote with equal assurance on the subject of *Pronuba*. I have obtained in all from the stems of *Yucca* some forty specimens of *Prodoxus*, none of them showing any sign of the maxillary tentacle of *Pronuba*, and it would be strange indeed if Dr. Hagen's two individuals formed such a remarkable exception. I write this upon first reading his note, but as I expect shortly to have the privilege of examining the specimens, I will wait and see what light I can then throw upon this last "mystery."

Regarding Dr. Hagen's unwillingness to send me a specimen of the *Yucca* stem larva, I have simply to say that upon learning from Mr. Thomas Meehan that he had sent to Dr. Hagen what, from my previous experience with it, I thought was probably *Prodoxus decipiens*, I greatly

desired to ascertain whether it was so or whether my friend was right in considering it Coleopterous—the determination being important in the light of previous published statements by Mr. Meehan. I do not see how the gratification of my desire would have in any way interfered with Dr. Hagen's intended publication, and when, after sending him a *Prodoxus* larva and asking him to tell me whether his was identical or different, no reply came, I was forced to seek the information elsewhere. Mr. Meehan kindly sent me some infested stems from the same lot as those sent to Dr. Hagen, and from them I at once recognized *Prodoxus*, and from them even bred the moths, *which did not have the characters of Pronuba*.

C. V. RILEY.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 16, 1880.

P. S.—As a post script to what I have previously written regarding Dr. Hagen's note on *Pronuba yuccasella*, I wish to say that upon meeting him he at once admitted his error, and I leave him to explain it.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 23, 1880.

C. V. R.

I have to note the capture of *Hadena confederata* Gr. on Staten Island in October. This species I have originally described from Louisiana and Texas. My friend, Mr. Thaxter, has taken it also at the same time in Cambridge, Mass. It is a Southern form, coming northward in the fall. Mr. Thaxter caught it in Jamaica, N. S. Mr. Thaxter has also bred the *Spanish Moth*, *Euthisanotia timais*, in Florida.

A. R. GROTE.

During August I had a three weeks' hunt about Ridgeway, and a finer place for the purpose I have never been in. I brought home one *Catocala* new to me, small size. One day I saw a little beauty sitting on a tree, which I took for a *Catocala*, but it is *Ephesia elonympha*, a perfect gem in its way. We came across three butterflies I never saw alive before: *Papilio marcellus*, *P. philenor* and *Junonia coenia*. We took but one of each; also one specimen of *cresphontes*. Some fine flies taken on the lake shore; beautiful specimens of the banded *Midas*, and a large red one I had not seen before.

The sand seemed full of the larvae of the Ant Lion, but it was too early for the mature insect. I took one specimen of *Myrmelion abdominalis* at Long Point, and one of a species I don't know.

Hamilton, Aug. 10, 1880.

J. ALSTON MOFFAT.