moths upon the plant, besides numerous small black flies which, unlike the moth, go down *bodily* into the flower.—L. THOMPSON."

"*North Woburn, Oct. 29, 1879.*"

Upon writing Dr. Hermann Muller in reference to these facts, he replied as follows:

"Lippstadt, Nov. 10, 1879.—*Physianthus albens* has been observed by Delpino as being visited by humble bees and fertilized by their proboscis. It is a new and very interesting fact that *Plusia precationis* is caught by the flowers of this plant and has been found dead suspended by its proboscis. About carnivorous habits of bees, my brother Fritz, in south Brazil, has observed that honey bees (but I do not remember for the moment whether Apis or stingless Brazilian honey bees) licked eagerly the juice dropping from pieces of flesh which had been suspended in order to be dried in the open air. Nothing else as far as I know has ever been published on the carnivorous habits of bees; I hope, therefore, you will soon publish your very interesting observations."

We have also received the following letter from Mr. Darwin, dated Down, Beckenham, Kent, Nov. 23d. "I never heard of bees being in any way carnivorous, and the fact is to me incredible. Is it possible that the bees opened the bodies of the Plusia to suck the nectar contained in their stomachs? Such a degree of reason would require repeated confirmation and would be very wonderful. I hope that you or some one will attend to this subject."

We have also received the following note from Prof. Gray in reference to the subject: "It has long been familiar, and must several times have been recorded, that moths or butterflies and other insects are caught by getting their tongue, proboscis or legs into the chink between adjacent wings of the anthers in *Physianthus* or *Arauja albens*, and *Asclepias*, etc. The anther-wings are very rigid, the groove between them narrows gradually upwards, so that when a leg or proboscis is engaged, an upward pull only fixes it more securely, and the unhappy insects seem rarely to pull backward or downward, which is the only way to get disengaged. As to the rest of your account I know nothing; and should say that the observations need, if not 'repeated confirmation,' at least some confirmation by an etomological observer."

It appears from the fact that the single worker bee received had a pollen-mass attached to one of its fore legs, that it visited the plant originally for the sake of its nectar. For what purpose did it attack, kill the moths and, as it is claimed, "devour" them? We publish the observations of Mr. Thompson and the comments upon them, with the hope that the subject will receive attention next summer.

Since this note has been put in type, Prof. A. J. Cook, of the Agricultural College of Michigan, well known as an apiarian of experience, informs us that *within the hive*, honey bee workers in killing the drones tear them in pieces with their mandibles rather than sting them, and that he has seen them thus kill a humble bee that had entered the hive; it thus appears, what we judge will be quite new to