

May 4, 1868.

H. T. STAINTON, Esq., Vice-President, in the chair.

*Donations to the Library.*

The following donations were announced, and thanks voted to the donors:—  
 ‘Catalogue of Scientific Papers (1800—1863), compiled and published by the Royal Society of London,’ vol. i.; presented by the Royal Society. ‘Proceedings of the Royal Society,’ Nos. 98—100; by the Society. ‘The Journal of the Quekett Microscopical Club,’ Nos. 1 and 2; by the Club. ‘The Journal of the Linnean Society,’ Zoology, No. 40; by the Society. ‘The Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England,’ 2nd series, vol. iv. part 1; by the Society. ‘Bulletins de l’Académie Royale des Sciences, &c., de Belgique,’ 2me ser., t. xxiv.; by the Academy. ‘Bulletin de la Société Impériale des Naturalistes de Moscou,’ 1867, No. II.; by the Society. ‘Essai d’une Faune Entomologique de l’Archipel Indo-néerlandais,’ par S. C. Snellen van Vollenhoven. Troisième Monographie: Famille des Pentatomides, 1re Partie; by the Author. ‘On Pauropus, a New Type of Centipede;’ and ‘Notes on the Thysanura,’ Part iii.; by the Author, Sir John Lubbock, Bart. ‘On the Lepidopterous Insects of Bengal,’ by Frederic Moore; by the Author. ‘Remarks on the Names applied to the British Hemiptera Heteroptera,’ by J. W. Douglas and John Scott; by the Authors. Newman’s ‘British Moths,’ No. 17; by the Author. ‘The Zoologist,’ for May; by the Editor. ‘The Entomologist’s Monthly Magazine,’ for May; by the Editors.

*Exhibitions, &c.*

Mr. W. C. Boyd exhibited a number of skins of larvæ of Lepidoptera, admirably prepared by Mr. Davis, of Waltham Cross, so as to preserve both the form and colour of the caterpillars.

Mr. Trimen exhibited a crippled specimen of *Saturnia Pavonia-minor*, which, owing probably to the form and smallness of the box in which it was confined, had attempted to emerge from its cocoon tail-foremost, but failing in the attempt was found fixed with its head in contiguity with the head of the pupa-skin.

Dr. Wallace, of Colchester, offered to send eggs of the Japanese oak-feeding silk-worm, *Bombyx Yamamai*, to any Member of the Society.

Mr. Stainton drew attention to the plate illustrating a paper entitled “*Histoire d’une Chenille mineuse des feuilles de vigne, extraite d’une lettre écrite de Malte à M. de Reaumur*,” published in the ‘*Memoires de l’Académie Royale des Sciences de Paris*,’ in 1750. The habit of the footless larva which attacked the vine in Malta and produced a small moth was so carefully described and portrayed by M. Godeheu de Riville, that there was no difficulty in recognizing it as congeneric with the footless larvæ of *Antispila Treitschkeella* and *Pfeifferella*, and Mr. Stainton some time since proposed the name of *Antispila Rivillii*, in the hope that the species would be again detected in some of the vine-growing districts of Southern Europe. To the present day, however, the moth remains unknown, and the larva is known only by the record of M. de Riville.



Mr. Hewitson communicated the following note on *Tachyris Jacquinotii* (see Trans. Ent. Soc. 1868, p. 99):—

“I find, from a recent visit to the Jardin des Plantes, in Paris, that the *Pieris* described by Lucas under the name *Jacquinotii* is nothing more than a highly-coloured variety of *P. albina*, and when Mr. Wallace went over my collection I understood that he considered it as such. It does not come, as stated by Lucas, from New Guinea, but from New Caledonia, and has not, as I suggested, any relation with the South-American *P. Isandra*.”

Mr. M'Lachlan mentioned that the *Anax mediterraneus* of de Selys Longchamps, which had on a solitary occasion been captured in the Island of Sardinia, but had been rejected from the list of European dragon-flies, was observed in swarms at Turin and in other parts of Italy by Dr. Ghiliani and others, on numerous occasions, from July to September, 1867.

Mr. F. Smith exhibited a larva which he believed to be a *Xantholinus*, found by Mr. O. Janson whilst digging in a sand-bank at Snaresbrook: attached by their hinder extremities to the under side of this larva, on the 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th segments respectively, were four pupæ of a Hymenopterous parasite, probably a *Proctotrupes*.

Mr. F. Smith also exhibited a Longicorn beetle, *Cerosterna gladiator*, and a large *Acheta*, which were very destructive to forest-trees in Madras.

Dr. Cleghorn, Conservator of Forests, Madras (who was present as a visitor), said that these insects had done great damage in the young *Casuarina* plantations along the Madras Railway. The attacks of the beetle were principally directed to the bark of the trees; but the cricket generally bit off the leading shoots or primary branches. It appeared suddenly in September, 1867, after some showers of rain at the end of the hot season: during the night the larvæ emerged from the sand, crawled up the young trees, and nibbled off the leading shoots (as a rabbit might have done), many of which, six inches long, were found lying on the ground; hundreds of trees had to be replaced on the railway-banks in consequence of their depredations. The best way to save the trees was to employ boys to dig out the larvæ from the tortuous galleries or passages which they made in the sand to a depth of ten to fifteen inches, and large enough to admit the little finger: he had had bushels of them dug out of their burrows and destroyed. In reply to inquiries, Dr. Cleghorn stated that he had himself frequently seen the larvæ crawling up the stems, and was convinced that they were the authors of the injury, but he had never seen them in the act of cutting off the shoots.

Mr. Trimen mentioned, as a parallel case, a tree-cricket at the Cape which eats the terminal shoots of the silver-tree (*Leucodendron argenteum*), by which, however, the shoots are not wantonly bitten off, but are consumed for food.

Mr. F. Smith exhibited eight kinds of larvæ from India, all of which were described as “borers,” and as causing great damage to the coffee and other trees. Three of them appeared to be Lepidopterous; one, the “red borer” of Ceylon, which attacks a tree in the middle of the stem and works its way upwards through the pith, belonged to a species of *Zenzera*; a second, which was a somewhat similar larva, was found in the pith of the charcoal tree (*Sponia Wightii*); the third, the “great white borer,” also looked like a *Zenzera*, and was usually found at the root of coffee and