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## Department of Insects: C.V. Riley's Report 1889 - 1890

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## REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS FOR THE YEAR

1889 - 1890.

I. During the past fiscal year the increased space in the laboratory has afforded facilities for a proper display of the collections and for much work on the arrangement into the systematic, biologic and duplicate series of the different orders and families.

The educational exhibit collection, which was reported on as completed in my last annual report, has been somewhat improved, and the economic collection, which was somewhat <sup>the</sup> damaged during the return-shipment from the Paris exposition, has been overhauled and put in place again.

A large collection of illustrations of the N. A. insects, prepared for the Paris exposition have been placed on exhibit and add value to the exhibit collection. These represent wood cuts and plates mostly from the original drawings of the



curator. These were carefully hand-proofed from the original blocks, and present a unique series of cuts many of which in rougher impression have become familiar to the American public through repetition in entomological and agricultural publications.

II. Many important accessions have been received during the year and of these the following may be mentioned:

A large collection of Myriapoda, containing about 2200 specimens and numerous types, was purchased from the mother of the late C. H. Bollman, Bloomington, Indiana.

A collection of 125 rare micro-Lepidoptera, containing types of a number of his species, was received from Lord Walsingham, England, through the Curator.

22224. 14 old world species of blind Coleoptera obtained by exchange from Prof. R. Gestro, Genova, Italy.



22705. A collection of 2500 species of Coleoptera, many of which were new to the Museum, was purchased from M. L. Linell, aid to the Department.

22747. A well mounted series of Australian and New Zealand insects, collected by Mr. A. Koebele, containing about 400 species of Coleoptera, Hemiptera, Orthoptera and Lepidoptera were received, through the Curator. Also through the same source, 5 boxes of Australian and New Zealand insects, also collected by Mr. A. Koebele, including 29 different galls, and in many cases the insects bred from them; 42 Coccids; 415 Psyllids and various other interesting specimens, especially Micro-Hymenoptera, all most carefully mounted.

Types of many new species of N. A. Coleoptera have been received by exchange from Capt. T. L. Casey, N.Y.

23158. 120 species of Lepidoptera, collected by Mr. W. L. Abbott, between Zanzibar and Kilimanjaro, East Africa.



23272. A collection of West and South African insects of various orders, made by Mr. W. H. Brown, naturalist to the U. S. Eclipse Expedition of 1889.

This contains 75 species of Coleoptera, 45 species of Lepidoptera, 19 of Hemiptera, 25 species of Hymenoptera, 7 species of Diptera, 10 of Neuroptera, 46 species of Orthoptera, 12 species of Arachnida and 10 species of Myriapoda.

23288. A collection of 87 species of South African Coleoptera, some of them named, by exchange from Mr. J. H. Brady, Cape Town.

23340. - 4600 specimens of well mounted insects, largely Coleoptera, collected by Mr. A. Koebele in California, received through the Curator.

Types of several new species of N. A. Noctuidae have been obtained by exchange from Prof. J. B. Smith, New Brunswick, N.J.

The Insect-collection of the late Dr. Asa Fitch, purchased by the Agricultural Department, was donated to the Museum through the Curator.

Although considerably damaged and in part ruined



by neglect, this collection of New York's late eminent State entomologist still contains many important types and has a special value.

III. The routine work during the year has been:

1. The making up of the collections for exchange.

Some of these are ~~as~~ the following:

<sup>a</sup>/A small lot of blind American Coleoptera for Prof. R. Gestro, Genova, Italy.

<sup>b</sup>/A small lot of Chrysidae for Vic. R. du Buysson, Brou-Vernot, France.

<sup>c</sup>/A collection of 87 species of N.A. Coleoptera for Mr. J. H. Brady, Cape Twon.

2. - The naming of specimens for collectors:

As examples of work of this kind may be mentioned the naming of a miscellaneous lot of insects for Mrs. R. W. Summers, San Louis Obispo, Cal.; several lots of Coleoptera for Mr. W. D. Richardson, Fredericksburg, Va.; a collection of Coleoptera and Lepidoptera for Prof. L. Bruner, Lincoln, Nebr.; a collection of Mexican insects of different orders for Prof. A. Dugès, Guanajuato, Mex.; Coleoptera



for Mr. M. O. Dietz, New York, for Prof. H. Osborn, Ames, Iowa and for Mr. J. D. Sherman, Peekskill, N. Y. In addition I had a full duplicate and named series of Memiptera prepared and sent to Prof. A. J. Cook for the Michigan Agricultural College collection. This must be looked upon as a donation as we expect nothing in exchange.

3. - The selection of material to be sent to specialists for study and determination.

The Coleoptera of the tribes Blapstini, Eurymetopon and Eumenathus were sent to Capt. T. L. Casey, New York, who is working upon these groups.

4. - The work of arranging in permanent shape all the collections:

The rearrangement of the N. A. Coleoptera, mentioned in the last annual report as having been commenced, has been completed. The Systematic series occupies 323 boxes and contains 5900 properly identified species and 440 undetermined and undescribed species. The biologic series occupies 30 boxes and illustrates the life-history of 630



species. The duplicate series of 1850 species has been arranged in 116 double boxes, and this material is now available for exchange or distribution, and is very rich in specimens. The Hemiptera-Heteroptera have been rearranged according to Uhler's Check List. The collection contains 455 named species from the U. S. and occupies 53 boxes. Of duplicates there are 138 species in 14 double boxes. In addition there are 160 named exotic species in 5 boxes.

5. - The actual care of the collection:

The entire collection was gone over twice during the past year and the naphthaline cones renewed, where necessary.

IV. In the annual report for 1888-9 a full list of the special researches then in progress and based upon museum material was given. Of the work there mentioned, that of Mr. W. H. Ashmead upon the Ichneumonidae of the National Museum Collection has since been published as No. 779 of the extras from the Proceedings. Mr. L. O. Howard's "Annotated



Catalogue of the Insects collected in 1887-'88" has been published as extra No. 771. Mr. Jno. B. Smith's "Contributions towards a Monograph of the Noctuidae of temperate North America - Revision of some Taeniocampid genera" was published as extra No. 781.

Mr. Lawrence Bruner's "New North American Acrididae found north of the Mexican Boundary" was published as extra No. 764.

In addition to these, Capt. T. L. Casey, U.S.A., is engaged in monographing the tribe Blapstine and the genera Eurymetopon and Eumenathus and the Museum material in these groups has been loaned him for study.

- V. During the past ~~many~~ year by a rough estimate some 15000 specimens have been added to the collection. Until the work of rearrangement has been completed it will be very difficult to draw up a tabulated statement of the exact condition of the collection as a whole. It is safe to say that more than 30000 specimens of the different orders have been



added since the publication of the rough tabulated statement in the annual report of the curator for 1886-7.

The last catalogue entry for June, 1889, is 483, and for June, 1890, 572.

Respectfully submitted,  
C. V. Riley,  
Hon. Curator.

Prof G. Brown Goode  
Director U. S. N. M.



Curator Report file

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS  
FOR SEPTEMBER 1889.

The following accessions were received during the month:

534. 1 spec. *Emesa longipes* from C. G. Waller, 92  
Granby St., Norfolk, Va.
22321. Clay-funnels made by ants from Capt. H. Romeyn,  
Fort Ringgold, Texas.
532. Bean-worm from E. A. Hadley, Amoskeag, N. H.
537. 1 spec. *Gryllotalpa* from E. J. Gray, 1924 Pa. Ave.  
Washington, D. C.
544. Larva of *Ceratomia regalis* from T. B. Menafer,  
Sperryville, Va.
22337. Lepidoptera from Samoa, from Dr. C. H. White,  
U. S. National Museum.
548. 1 spec. *Mantis carolina* from Dr. C. P. Baird,  
Scottsborough, Ala.
546. 1 spec. *Mantis carolina* from Alex. Hill, Bright-  
seat, Md.
550. Larva of a Pentatomid from Henry W. Curtis,  
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.



22348. Larva of a *Heterocampa*, parasitized, from

James E. Jonett, Sandy Spring, Md.

557. 1 sp. *Balaninus caryatrupes* from John B. Floyd,  
Madison, Ala.

560. 1 sp. *Epeira insularis* from W. R. Burns, Concord,  
Ky.

553. Chrysalis of *Grapta interrogationis* from Dr.

G. B. Lartigan, Blackville, S. C.

561. Chrysalis of *Danais Plexippus* from H. Dickerson,  
Dickerson, Md.

22392. Miscellaneous Insects from Japan, from R.

Hitchcock, U. S. Nat. Museum.

568. Larva of *Papilio Turnus* from W. R. Barber,  
Denison, Iowa.

22376. 18 specimens of different orders, collected in

the Congo region by J. H. Camp, Herring, Ohio.

22484 4 pairs of an imported grain pest -- *Cephus pygmaeus* --  
received from Prof. J. H. Comstock of Cornell  
University, Ithaca, N. Y., through Mr. L. O.  
Howard, Department of Agriculture.

125 specimens of rare micro-lepidoptera containing

types of a number of species received from Lord  
Walsingham of England, by the Curator and by him



transferred to the Museum collection.

A number of interesting specimens through the Department of Agriculture without accession number.

The whole month has been spent on the rearrangement of the North American Coleoptera.

Respectfully submitted,

*C. V. Riley.*

Honorary Curator of Insects.

*P.S. The delay in sending is due to exceptional pressure during my return.*

*C. V. R.*



*Curators Report Jan*

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In charge of U. S. National Museum

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REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS FOR NOVEMBER 1889.

Prof. G. Brown Goode,

Asst. Sec. Smithsonian Inst.,

In charge U. S. National Museum.

Sir:

The following accessions were received during the month:

592. *Prionidus cristatus* and *Megilla maculata* from J. S. Webb, Disputanta, Va.

22517. 6 species of Insects, 4 spiders, 2 scorpions and 3 scolopendras from W. L. Carpenter, Ft. Whipple, Arizona.

22503. 4 species of Coleoptera, collected in British Columbia from R. MacFarlane, Cumberland House, Manitoba.

612. Two packages with larvae of *Arctia Isabella*, from John Heflebower, Keep Tryst, Md.

22586. Hornet's nest from C. W. Dall, 1119 12th St. N. W., Washington, D. C.

613. Oak-chip infested with larva of *Prionus laticollis*, from Carrington Mason, Memphis, Tenn.



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22499. A lot of alcoholic specimens, mostly Orthoptera, Spiders and Myriapods, from Dr. C. H. White, through Dr. G. W. Woods, Mare Isl., Cal.

The arrangement of the North American Coleoptera has been continued during the month, the Clavicorn families are finished and of the Serricorns the four families: Dascyllidae, Elateridae, Buprectidae and Lampyridae. Altogether the first 5000 numbers of Henshaw's list are now covered. Of these we have represented in the systematic collection 3200 species, arranged in 220 boxes, and the duplicates, about 800 species, fill 55 double folding boxes. Biological specimens of 166 specimens are separated to be arranged together with the alcoholic biologic material.

I have also had the Hemiptera - Heteroptera rearranged during the month by Mr. Wm. H. Ashmead so as to include all the accumulations of late years. Uhler's Check List of the North American Heteroptera, including Mexico and the West Indies gives 1448 species. Of these our systematic series contains 455 named species from the U. S. arranged in 53 boxes. Of duplicates we



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have 138 species in 14 double folding boxes.

Besides we have 160 named exotic species in 5 boxes.

Respectfully submitted,

*C. V. Riley*

Hon. Curator of Insects.



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REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS FOR DECEMBER 1889.

Prof. G. Brown Goode,

Asst. Sec. Smithsonian Inst.,

In charge U. S. National Museum.

Sir:

The chief accession received during the month was:

22705. A collection of N. A. Coleoptera, about 10000 specimens in 2500 species purchased of M. L. Linell, Aid, Department of Insects, U. S. National Museum.

The rearrangement of the North American Coleoptera was continued and the following families finished: Malachidae, Cleridae, Ptinidae, Cupesidae, Cioidae, Lymexulidae, Sphindidae, Lucanidae and Searabaeidae. Our systematic series contained 635 658 species out of 952 credited to our fauna. The duplicates are of 200 species and 64 species are in the biologic series.

A good deal of time was spent during the month in determinations or material sent in or brought in by members of the Associa-



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tion of Economic Entomologists and various minor additions have been made either through exchange or through the Department of Agriculture without accession numbers. A full series of named Heteroptera has been prepared from the duplicate collection by request of Prof. A. J. Cook of the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station and donated thereto.

The arrangement of the gall flies (Cynipidae) which has been going on for some months in connection with the work at the Department of Agriculture was completed and a careful paper has been prepared by Wm. H. Ashmead on the same.

Respectfully submitted,

*C. V. Riley*

Hon. Curator of Insects.



*Curators report file*

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*Washington,* Feb. 1st, 1890. *Ad*

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS FOR JANUARY 1890.

The following accessions were received during the month:

- 22742 - A fine specimen of Queen of Termite, collected in Sinou cy.  
Liberia, from Frederic Singer, Lieut. U. S. Navy.
- 22747 - A collection of insects from Australia and New Zealand as  
follows: Coleoptera, 830 specimens of 250 species, Hemiptera  
128 specimens of 52 species and Orthoptera, 200 specimens of  
40 species, through C. V. Riley.
- 22720 - 50 specimens of various orders, collected in Nicaragua,  
from J. F. LeBaron, San Juan del Norte, Nicaragua.
- 22764 - Rhagium lineatum with nest, from H. Hran, U. S. National  
Museum.
- 22780 - Types of 16 species Agrotis in 24 specimens, from J. B.  
Smith, New Brunswick, N. J. (exchange).
- 652 - Specimens of Termes flavipes, from T. B. Andrews, Memphis  
Tenn.
- 653 - A spider, Gasteracantha velitaris Koch, from W. A. Jakel,  
Ft. Clark, Tex.



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22772 - A few insects, larvae and arachnids, collected in California, Arizona and Mexico, from U. S. Fish Commission.

22810 - A spider (Datames subluridus), i Cicada prunicola, 1 larva of Corydalis cornutus and 5 Lebullulid larvae, from M. McDonald, U. S. Fish Commission.

22823 - 8 species European Orthoptera and 8 species of European Microlepidoptera from Targioni-Tozzetti, Firenze, Italy.  
(Exchange)

22824 - Types of 9 new species N. Am. Coleoptera, from T. L. Casey, Army Building, New York. (Exchange.)

22834 - Females specimens of Pseudospinx tetrio, collected Gulf of Mexico, from N. G. Henry, New Orleans, La.

During the month the N.A. Coleoptera of the family Cerambycidae have been arranged. Out of 577 species we have represented 375 species in the systematic series and 50 in the biological. In duplicates there are 188 species.



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During the month also the former assistant, J. B. Smith, spent most of the time, on a visit to the Museum, in the arrangement of some of the families of Noctuidae bringing all unarranged material together and also in determining material which he brought from Rutgers College for that purpose. I gave him in exchange for the 16 species added to the collection already referred to, 61 species and 99 specimens for the Rutgers College collection. He also took with him some 25 undetermined species for study.

Respectfully submitted,

*C. V. Riley*

Honorary Curator.



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REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS FOR FEBRUARY 1890.

The following accessions were received during the month:

671 - Photograph of petrified insect from F. E. Evans,  
Los Angeles, Cal.

681 - About 70 species of Mexican insects of different  
orders from Alfredo Duges, Guanajuato, Mex. These  
were sent in for determination, and a list of the  
names returned to the sender.

The most valuable accession for the month is that made  
through the Curator, and not numbered, of 5 boxes of  
Australian and New Zealand insects collected by  
Mr. Koebele including 29 different galls, and in  
many cases the insects bred from them; 42 Coccids;  
415 Psyllids and various other interesting specimens  
especially Micro-hymenoptera - all most carefully  
mounted.

The 24 boxes containing the exhibit in economic entomology



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made by the Department of Agriculture at the Paris Exposition were returned to the Museum. As a rule the specimens were in fair condition of preservation, but in four of the boxes they were ruined and had to be replaced. The whole was carefully fixed up and placed on the stands in the ~~exhibit~~ exhibit hall of the department. This was part of the same collection which had been exhibited at New Orleans and the boxes must have been very severely handled in the shipment from Paris as the damage was much greater than it had been in the shipment to and from New Orleans.

The arrangement of North American Coleoptera was continued and the families Chrysomelidae, Bruchidae and Tenebrionidae finished. Our systematic series in these families contains 775 species out of 1083 accredited to our fauna. In the Biologic series 100 species are represented and in the duplicates 300 species.

With the aid only of Mr. Linell I find it impossible to keep up or to get much ahead in the work of the department and am in very great need of additional aid. I have had some correspondence



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with quite a number of young men in reference to appointment and should like to have the authority to make arrangements with some person, if a favorable one presents, at a salary of from \$600 to \$900 per annum. When Mr. Smith left us on a salary of \$1800 per annum I understood that two aids would be allowed whose combined salaries should not greatly, if any, exceed that amount.

Respectfully submitted,

*C. V. Riley*

Hon. Curator of Insects.



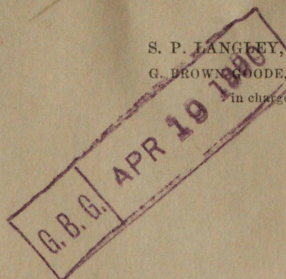
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Accepted

Riley, March.

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REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS FOR MARCH, 1890.

The following accessions were received during the month:-

695. Fragments of *Adalia bipunctata*, from Geo. B. Woodward, Boston, Mass., for identification.

22967. Scorpion (*Centrurus viteatus*), alive, found in a fruit-basket, from Henry Harkness, U.S.Nat.Mus.

23007. 2 specimens of Centipede (*Scolopendra heros*), collected in Indian Territory, from A.M.Hoover, 932 Pa. Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C.

714. Cocoon of *Cecropia* moth for identification, from Jno. S. Webb Disputante, Va.

676. This is the largest accession, from Loomis, Japan, containing 140 specimens of Lepidoptera, 30 of Orthoptera, 35 of Neuroptera, 23 of Hymenoptera, 5 of Hemiptera and 7 of Diptera.

The re-arrangement of the North American Coleoptera has proceeded during the month, covering the Families: Cistellidae, Lagriidae, Monommidae, Melandryidae, Pythidae, ~~Cedemeridae~~, ~~Cedemeridae~~, ~~Cedemeridae~~



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Cephaloidae, Mordellidae, Anthicidae, Pyrochroidae, Meloidae,  
Rhipiphoridae, Rhynchitidae, Attelabidae Otiorhynchidae and part  
of the Curculionidae. In the families Meloidae and Mordellidae  
our collection is almost complete.

Respectfully submitted

*C. V. Riley.*



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*Washington, \_\_\_\_\_, 1888*

REPORT of DEPARTMENT of INSECTS for APRIL, 1890.

The only accession during the month was 719 *Haltica ignita* ✓  
Ill., injurious to strawberries, from W. E. Hudson, Orlando, Fla.,  
and this was duly reported upon.

The rearrangement of the systematic collection of N. Am. Coleoptera was completed and contains 5910 species, properly identified, and 443 new or undetermined species.

Respectfully submitted

*C. V. Riley*  
*Curator.*



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JUL 15 1890

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*used*

Washington, 1888

REPORT of DEPARTMENT of INSECTS for APRIL, 1890.

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Respectfully submitted

*C. V. Riley*  
Curator.



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G.B.G.

JUL 15 1890

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Washington, \_\_\_\_\_, 1888

REPORT of DEPARTMENT of INSECTS for <sup>May</sup> ~~April~~, 1890.

The following accessions were received:

743 - *Termes flavipes*, injuring trees, from Jas. W. Haas,  
Mineral Park, Mohave Co., Ariz.

23105 - 5 specimens of South American Butterflies, represent-  
ing 3 species: Pavonia Telamonias Felder, Morpho Sp. and  
Morpho Cypris Boisd., from Don Carlos Martinez Silva,  
Muzo Mines, Boyaca, Columbia.

23158 - A large lot of miscellaneous East African insects,  
mostly Lepidoptera, from W. L. Abbott, Zanzibar, East  
Africa. Some of these have been mounted.

757 - Dytiscus Harrisii Kby. 1 specimen from J. W. Latcher,  
Edinburgh, N. Y.

23231 - Cocoons of the *Cecropia* and *Promethea* Silk Worms,  
from R. H. Martin, 1807 13th St., Washington, D. C.



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759 - Larva of Hellgrammite (Corydalis cornutus) from John M. Davis, Fayette Court House, Ala.

23248 - A living Polyphemus moth from Miss Edith Perry, U. S. National Museum.

760 - Belostoma americanum Leidy. 1 specimen from Jeremiah Snyder, Roaring Creek, Pa.

The month has been spent chiefly on the arrangement of the North American Coleoptera. In the systematic series the written labels have been replaced by printed ones, the duplicate collection has been fully arranged and takes up 115 double folding boxes. 1850 species are here represented, often in very large series and are now available for exchange or distribution. The biologic series illustrates the life-history of 625 species. Two check-lists have been prepared over the systematic and cuplicate series.

Respectfully submitted,

C. V. Riley  
Curator.



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REPORT of DEPARTMENT of INSECTS, MAY, 1890.

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mostly Lepidoptera, from W. L. Abbott, Zanzibar, East  
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✓ 757 - Dytiscus Harrisii Kby. 1 specimen from J. W. Latcher,  
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G. BROWN GOODE, Assistant Secretary,  
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- 759 - Larva of Hellgrammite (Corydalis cornutus) from John M. Davis, Fayette Court House, Ala.
- 23248 - A living Polyphemus moth from Miss Edith Perry, U. S. National Museum.
- 760 - Belostoma americanum Leidy. 1 specimen, from Jeremiah Snyder, Roaring Creek, Pa.

The month has been spent ~~a~~ chiefly on the arrangement of the North American Coleoptera. In the systematic series the written labels have been replaced by printed ones, the duplicate collection has been fully arranged and takes up 115 double folding boxes. 1850 species are here represented, often in very large series and are now available for exchange or distribution. The biologic series illustrates the life-history of 625 species. Two check-lists have been prepared over the systematic and duplicate series.

Respectfully submitted,

C. V. Riley  
Curator.



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Washington, \_\_\_\_\_, 1889

used

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF INSECTS FOR JUNE, 1890.

The following accessions were received during the month:

23270. Cocoon of Fork-tail moth (Cerura cinerea) from

Nicholas Schmidt, Soldiers' Home, D. C.

23272. About 250 species of West and South African insects  
of all orders, collected by Mr. W. H. Brown during  
U. S. Eclipse Expedition (U.S.S. Pensacola) 1889-90.

23288. Collection of South African Coleoptera containing  
87 species, 295 specimens, from J. H. Brady, Depart-  
ment of Public ~~Works~~ Education, Cape Town,

(Exchange returned)

23307. 15 species of various orders, North American Insects,  
from J. B. Smith, New Brunswick, N. J.

(Exchange)

781. Siphonophora avenae infesting wheat and oats, from  
H. G. Hodge, York, Clark Co., Ill.



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

S. P. LANGLEY, Secretary  
G. BROWN GOODE, Assistant Secretary,  
in charge of U. S. National Museum

Washington, \_\_\_\_\_, 1888

23328. 1 sp. *Strataegus julianus* Bur. from Dr. F. E. Daniel,  
Austin, Texas.

790. Specimen of insect, unfit for report, from W. J. Green  
wald, Blairstown, Iowa.

23200. Alcoholic specimens of 9 ~~spax~~ scorpions, 1 spider, 1  
myriapod and 1 caterpillar from Gov'n't Nicaragua,  
through M. Medina through John Durand, 164 Boulevard,  
Montparnasle, Paris?

All the collections were examined for pests during the month  
and the accessions from the Eclipse Expedition and from Mr. W. L.  
Abbott, Zanzibar, were prepared for study. Two smaller collections  
for foreign exchange were made up, one of Chrysididae for Vicomte  
R. du Buysson, France and the other one of Coleoptera for Mr. J. H.  
Brady, Cape Town. The exhibit collection of North American Coleop  
tera was also improved and some general arrangements <sup>made</sup> ~~done~~ in the  
laboratory.

Respectfully submitted,

C. V. Riley



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Respectfully submitted,

*C. V. Riley*

Hon. Curator of Insects.