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ENTOMOLOGICAL EXHIBITS AT THE NEW ORLEANS EXPOSITION.

BY THE EDITOR.

The United States Government exhibit, and those of several of the States, at the New Orleans Exposition, included many features of interest to the Entomologist. The Entomological Bureau of the Department of Agriculture had a very fine display illustrating Economic Entomology, which was brought together and arranged under the direction of Prof. Riley, and was not only interesting, but very instructive.

The first thing that caught the eye of the visitor on entering this section was a series of large diagrams on cotton, illustrating the life history of a number of injurious insects, such as the Plum Curculio, *Conotrachelus nenuphar*, and its parasites; the Chinch Bug, *Micropus leucopterus*; the Jumping Sumach Beetle, *Blepharida rhois*; the Boll Worm, *Heliothis armigera*; the Round-headed and Flat-headed Apple-tree Borers, *Saperda candida* and *Chrysobothris femorata*; the Codling Moth, *Carpocapsa pomonella*; the Peach Borer, *Aegeria exitiosa*; the Grape Phylloxera, *Phylloxera vastatrix*, and a large number of other well-known injurious species. The insects themselves were arranged in cases near by, and grouped so as to show those injurious to the apple, pear, peach, orange, strawberry, raspberry, currant, gooseberry, melon, cranberry, persimmon, grape, sugar cane, hop, rice, Indian corn, small grains, cotton, grass, clover, pea, bean, cabbage, potato, tomato, tobacco, asparagus and onion. Many of these groups were very complete, having along with the perfect insects the pupæ and blown larvæ, with specimens of the articles injured, also the friendly insects which aid in subduing those which are injurious.

There was a very interesting section relating to bees and bee-culture, including all sorts of hives and apparatus, specimens of the different races of bees, with dried specimens of the plants and flowers from which honey is chiefly extracted.

A large department was filled with every kind of spray apparatus for

applying liquid poisons to growing crops for the purpose of destroying injurious insects.

The silk exhibit was also very instructive, showing this substance in all stages of manufacture from various species of silk worms, including some of our natives.

A very complete catalogue of the exhibit had been prepared, covering 95 pages 8vo., which was freely distributed to those specially interested in the subject.

In the Florida exhibit there was one case of insects containing a number of butterflies and beetles, including some beautiful *Papilios*, the only familiar species being *cresphontes*. There were no names to the specimens, and nothing to indicate who they were collected by.

North Carolina shows four cases of insects without names, including some very handsome species of Lepidoptera, Coleoptera and Neuroptera.

In the Texas department there was a gorgeous display, the collection of L. Heiligbrodt, of Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas, consisting of twelve cases of Coleoptera and twelve of Lepidoptera, classified and named, including some of the most brilliant and perfect specimens ever seen by the writer, with wonderful metallic lustre. Mr. H. also exhibited forty-three cases of European insects.

The State of Mississippi shows one case of insects fancifully arranged, collected by Miss P. Crump, including all orders, among them some rare and interesting butterflies.

In the Maryland exhibit, Mr. E. Louis Graf, of Baltimore, has a very singular looking display consisting of several cases of insects with the specimens arranged in fanciful designs and representing objects such as the American eagle, etc.

In the woman's department there was a collection of galls by Miss Cora H. Clarke, of Boston, in eight cases; also a series of excellent drawings of insects and parts of insects by Mrs. A. B. Comstock.

Among the exhibits from Japan there were quite a number of insects shown by the educational department, consisting of four cases of Lepidoptera, including some very beautiful diurnals and handsome moths. The only familiar butterfly here was that cosmopolitan species, the Painted Lady, *Pyrameis cardui*. There were two cases also of Coleoptera, containing some handsome longicorns, one case each of Neuroptera, Hemiptera and Orthoptera, and one of mixed Hymenoptera and Diptera.

In addition to these there were two large cases where the specimens

were grouped so as to show those injurious and those beneficial to agriculture.

There were probably other collections of insects in the buildings, but there being no official catalogue to guide the visitor, there was great difficulty in finding them.

REMARKS ON SOME SPECIES OF COLEOPTERA, WITH
SUPPLEMENTARY DESCRIPTIONS.

BY JOHN HAMILTON, M. D., ALLEGHENY, PA.

Many of the species of Coleoptera have been described from single, or, at the most, two or three specimens; these often imperfect, immature, or with individual peculiarities. Owing to this, those who undertake to determine their insects by descriptions, even allowing a wide latitude of interpretation, are frequently in doubt and uncertainty. Where families and genera have passed through recent monographic review, the re-description of the species from better preserved or more abundant material usually obviates the difficulty, but enough still remain to give trouble.

Among these, the ones here introduced seem deserving of notice, as some further description is necessary for their identification without having recourse to friendly aid.

Toxotus Schaumii Lec. The first difficulty is the feebleness of an important generic character; to be a *Toxotus* the eyes must be emarginate, and they are so obsoletely so in the few individuals of this species that have come under my observation as to make this character opinionative. There are two forms of this species so unlike in color, that unless taken in close relation, they would scarcely be recognized as belonging to the same species.

When Dr. LeConte described this species (Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phil., 2d series, vol. 1, p. 320), he seems to have only known one of these forms, characterizing it as "black, with whitish pubescence, legs black, femora yellowish, with base and tip black." This seems to apply to both sexes. And if the specimen in hand is of this color and recognized as a *Toxotus*, there is no further trouble. But should the specimen be reddish yellow, with black elytra so closely clothed with whitish grey pubescence as to conceal the color, antennæ black, with yellow basal joint, and tarsi piceous,