

# Insecta



RICH CUTLER

# Insecta



The urge for humans to classify is instinctual – a need to arrange the world around us into patterns, to form order from chaos, compels us from childhood to death. This desire became formalised in the sciences, and especially so in taxonomy – the placing of creatures and plants into groups. This amassing of knowledge, this killing of life and its entombment in collections, occasionally borders on obsession: the Victorian naturalist Alfred Russell Wallace wrote, on capturing a rare insect, ‘My heart began to beat violently, the blood rushed to my head, and I felt much more like fainting than I have done when in apprehension of immediate death.’\*

The scientific collection so painstakingly created is traditionally seen as hermetic and privileged – akin to the archive: a repository of preserved knowledge and authority, often institutionalised in museums.† But in actuality all collections – personal or institutional – are unstable, and time dissipates that which has been so carefully hoarded; a return to incoherence and entropy.

It is this failure of the collection and its archive that fascinates me. Dust and disintegration are the hallmarks of the fragments of insect collections and documentation depicted herein.‡ These creatures have died twice, first poisoned in killing jars, then turned by time into ruins. What remains are cul-de-sacs: their stored knowledge dissipated, their context lost.

\* A. F. Wallace (1869), *The Malay Archipelago*, Macmillan, London, vol. II, p. 24.

† The Booth Museum of Natural History in Brighton, where some of the photographs in this book were taken, contains over half a million insects in its collections, most not on public display.

‡ Ironically, a major cause of damage to insect collections is by other insects.

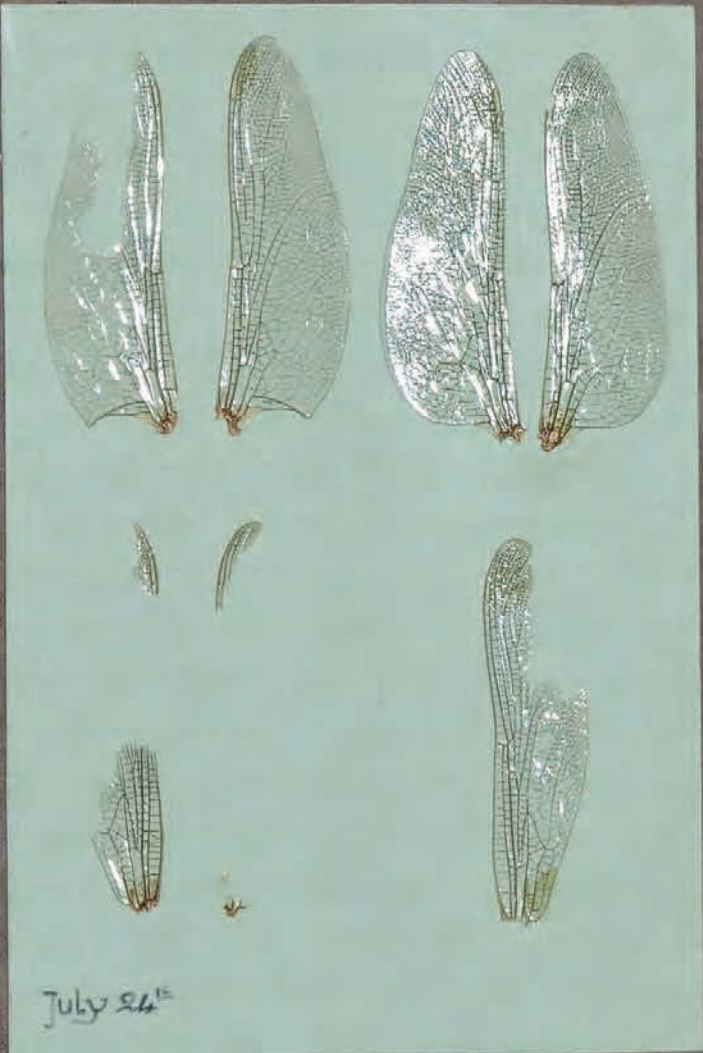


# Plates



I FOUND THESE WINGS  
LYING IN A BUNCH  
NEAR A POND. <sup>W</sup> <sup>W</sup> <sup>W</sup>  
WHAT WAS IT I WONDER  
THAT MADE A MEAL OF  
THESE DRAGONS OF THE AIR.  
JULY 24<sup>th</sup>

NOTICED A HEN-BLACKBIRD  
COLLECTING FOOD IN HER  
BEAK. I EXPECT SHE  
HAS HER NEST QUITE NEAR.  
JULY 28<sup>th</sup>





FOUND THE BLACKBIRD'S  
NEST IN THE BRANCHES OF  
A LILAC TREE, QUITE HIGH  
UP. THIS IS THE BIRD'S  
SECOND BROOD AND HER  
SECOND NEST. SHE HAD  
TWO FAMILIES IN THE  
FIRST ONE. *o o o o o*  
JULY 30<sup>th</sup>



MOTHER AND FATHER BLUE-  
TIT WERE HOLDING A CLASS *at 10*  
TODAY. IT WAS A VERY CLASS  
AND THEY HELD IT IN THE  
GREEN-PEA BOUGHS.  
THE SUBJECT WAS "HOW TO  
GET NICE, TENDER GREEN PEAS  
OUT OF THEIR PODS."  
THE TEACHERS GAVE  
PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS  
AND THE YOUNGSTERS WERE  
VERY APT PUPILS.

JULY 31<sup>st</sup>

WE SAT UNDER THE DOWNS TODAY  
WATCHING THE QUIET LITTLE CUCK-  
MERE RIVER. THE DAY WAS PERFECT.  
I SAW THREE KINDS OF DRAGON-FLIES.  
TINY EMERALD-BLUE ONES, THOSE LIKE  
BIG, DARK BUTTERFLIES AND ONE WITH  
CLEAR WINGS AND BARS ACROSS THEM.

SOME LUCKY SCOUTS WERE CAMPING  
NEAR THE WATER.  
SOME FINE OLD WILLOW TREES GREW  
ON THE BANKS. *o o o o o*

AUGUST 3<sup>rd</sup>





William  
Lockyer  
Hindostan

Wasps.

2.  
Athalia.

Hadley - Essex. 9314.

Knock wood Tentersden Kent. 9314.

Laigh on Sea. (See map Hadleigh)

Belund Laigh on Sea in the Hadleigh  
Woods

Go to the South of the woods & strike up any of  
the roads that lead off the old Southend  
wood as soon as the built-up area is left  
behind you come straight into woods  
which are rather open at this point.  
Within about 200 yards or less of the  
last road which they've started to lay  
down preparatory to more building  
you come right into the ground.  
You can't mistake this last wood for  
from which ever angle

approach;  
due South  
up woods  
it is only  
200

The information  
already at  
their feet



ARION



on June 25 1918. E. M. D. found a var. of A. Orion in -  
box, taken in July 1916.

A. B. Mason writes 19.9.1916. "Many thanks for your  
the variety for me. In one or two cases of varieties  
ed underside I have a drawing of the side  
new in the position in the cabinet, I should  
some with your variety so that people might  
that a good one it is."  
us to the "obscure" var. of Orion taken by  
in July 1916. at Rockingham, which later

to show in his collection.  
suddenly under an  
tears gland. with the correct  
the var back to G.B.K. - see  
in possession of P. B. K.)  
was bought by Mr. Bright  
le. It remained in Mr  
until his death when it was  
P. B. K. (through Mr. Arthur Russell.)  
ed to the same drawer in  
ph cabinet, which it now  
competition with W.

the only other pronounced var  
of Arion in existence  
"The G.B.K. var. is pictured in the in C. G. H. H. H.  
"Butterfly Varieties" in his smaller paper  
work on butterflies - as is G.B.K.'s. hama-  
plastic Teanus

British Isles - near Wack St. Marys  
Barkham Leigh.

A. deffe. Ashridge. Forest. Buckinghamshire.  
used to occur at Eton Home beyond Golf Course by railway.  
Long Bentley Wood Surrey - 10-16 July.

Aegon Clifton Wells writes 2/9/39. Aegon very scarce even in my  
favorite spot a heath just beyond the Golf links 15<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>  
July is best time in normal year - up to 20<sup>th</sup> August  
Dial House Crowdsome Berks

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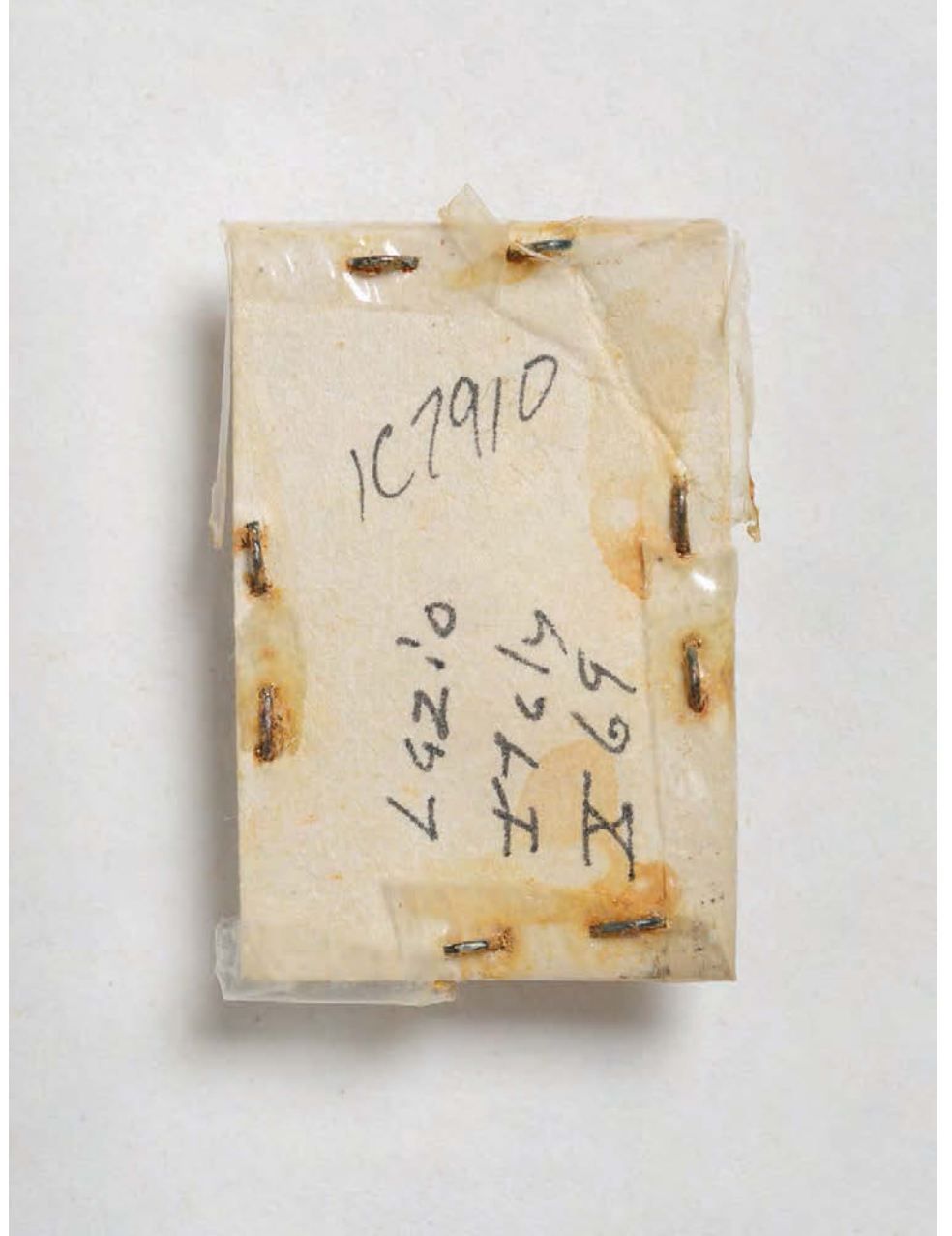
No. 11

Soddish

Dr. P. B. ...

Dr. P. B. ...









Jerry

...the fa... panic...  
...on...  
...laught...  
...Mr. ...  
...when he ...  
...he had ...  
...70,000 ...  
...He also ...  
...office, that ...  
...draughtsmen ...  
...ain - not as many ...  
...longer ...  
...Steph ...  
...secret ...  
...SHAE ...  
...make ...  
...xist ...  
...reveal ...  
...invits ...  
...not ...  
...PY, LET ...  
...CE, ...  
...FI ...









*Agathidium ilia* n. *elytra*  
Moravia mss.  
Pálava Hills  
July 63.



*Apurum ilia a by kin*  
*Meravia mea*  
*Palava*  
*Ju*

*FORPO*  
*24*  
*2550 BBT*

*VANESSA*  
*CANT*

*24050*

*24050*





~~APRIL HORN~~

15-5-74

To Denise RAY

40.00

WRING  
CHUN





*Mimica linearis* Linn.  
LINA DOUBLE STRIPE

*Rhyacia simonsi* Hufn.  
Dotted Oval - a  
Dotted Rustic

*Diarsia brunnea* Schiff.  
Purple Clay

*Amathes conicum* Linn.  
Linn. Clay  
Succinea Helvetic Chloride

*Amathes castanea* Dup.  
Moorland Clay  
Neglected Rustic

*Amathes depuncta* Linn.  
Pale Clay  
Plain Clay

*Amathes faga* Schiff.  
Dotted Clay

*Amathes atrapezum* Schiff.  
*Amathes atrapezum* Borch.  
Triple-Spotted Clay  
Tuber Clay  
Cousin German

*Amathes nigrossa* Dup.  
Moorland Clay  
Abundant Rustic

*Diarsia rubi* Vieweg.  
Small Clay  
Small Square Spot

*Diarsia festiva* Schiff.  
Fugate Clay

*Ochrochloa picta* Linn.  
Flame Clay  
Flame Shoulder

*Amathes anthina* Dup.  
Heath Clay  
Heath Rustic

*Axylla parva* Linn.  
FLAME RUSTIC

*Diarsia anthina* Hb.  
Barren Clay  
Barren Chestnut

Nairn  
Scotland  
7.9.73  
G. Botwright

Nairn  
Scotland  
4.8.73  
G. Botwright

DIARY  
5.10.73  
20.6.73  
G. Botwright

AVIEMORE  
SCOTLAND  
14.7.73  
G. Botwright

AVIEMORE  
SCOTLAND  
17.7.73  
G. Botwright

AVIEMORE  
SCOTLAND  
1.1.73  
G. Botwright

WINGRAIS  
SCOTLAND  
16.3.73  
G. Botwright

WINGRAIS  
SCOTLAND  
16.7.73  
G. Botwright

**Triphaena sobrina** Boisd.  
**Triphaena sobrina** Guen.  
Highland Clay  
Cousin German

**Amathes glareosa** Esp.  
Autumnal Clay  
Autumnal Rustic

NEWHAVEN  
SUSSEX  
12.7.73  
G. Botwright

Newhaven  
Sussex  
4.9.76  
G. Botwright

Newhaven  
Sussex  
12.9.72  
G. Botwright

Newhaven  
Sussex  
11.7.73  
G. Botwright

WINGRAIS  
SCOTLAND  
20.8.73  
G. Botwright

Swainsay  
Dorset  
3.9.73  
G. Botwright

BUY BOTWRIGHT  
COLLECTION  
1991/2

**Diarsia rubi** Vieweg  
Small Clay  
Small Square Spot

**Diarsia tesella** Schiff.  
Ingrailed Clay

Shaves Wood  
Sussex  
15.11.59  
G. Botwright

Shaves Wood  
Sussex  
26.6.35  
G. Botwright

Shaves Wood  
Sussex  
24.6.38  
G. Botwright

Nairn  
Scotland  
3.9.73  
G. Botwright

Nairn  
Scotland  
2.9.73  
G. Botwright

Nairn  
Scotland  
3.9.73  
G. Botwright

Nairn  
Scotland  
8.8.73  
G. Botwright

Nairn  
Scotland  
x  
G. Botwright

Gairloch  
Scotland  
29.7.72  
G. Botwright

Chesford  
Devon  
16.7.76  
G. Botwright

Rannoch  
Perth  
28.6.68  
J. V. Barlow

Langston  
Sussex  
8.6.73  
G. Botwright

Langston  
Sussex  
8.6.73  
G. Botwright

**Ochropleura plecta** Linn.  
Flame Clay  
Flame Shoulder

DUNGERNESS  
KENT  
FROM A PUPA  
OF VINOLA

DUNGERNESS  
KENT  
FROM A PUPA  
OF VINOLA

Newhaven  
Sussex  
FROM A PUPA  
OF VINOLA  
G. Botwright

ARUNDEL  
SUSSEX  
20.7.85  
G. Botwright

ARUNDEL  
SUSSEX  
20.6.83  
G. Botwright

Chesford  
Devon  
20.10.76  
G. Botwright

**Axylia putris** Linn.  
FLAME RUSTIC

Langston  
Sussex  
9.7.79  
G. Botwright

S. CORNWALL  
4.6.72  
OUT OF TRAIT  
CLEANING

Newhaven  
Sussex  
TO LIGHT  
6.1.70  
G. Botwright

PONDY  
SUSSEX  
OUT OF  
CANNAE  
13.8.73

Han Street  
Kent  
9.8.73  
G. Botwright

Booth Museum of Natural History, Brighton  
Can. wha  
opening 14

No.	To Be	Kept
Name	for	DEMONSTRATION
Locality	of	what
Collector	happ	can

1

3

4

5

*Tridens*  
3 yrs picked at  
p. of ...

Mam. Collection plant *Tridens*  
apparently correct 1895

*Tridens* dark brown

called *Poa*  
but probably *Tridens*

*Tridens* ordinary Newfod form











WAINSCOT

PRETTY  
CAMP  
CAMP

Tree  
EAT

GOLD  
SPOT

Blue  
GREEN  
SPOT

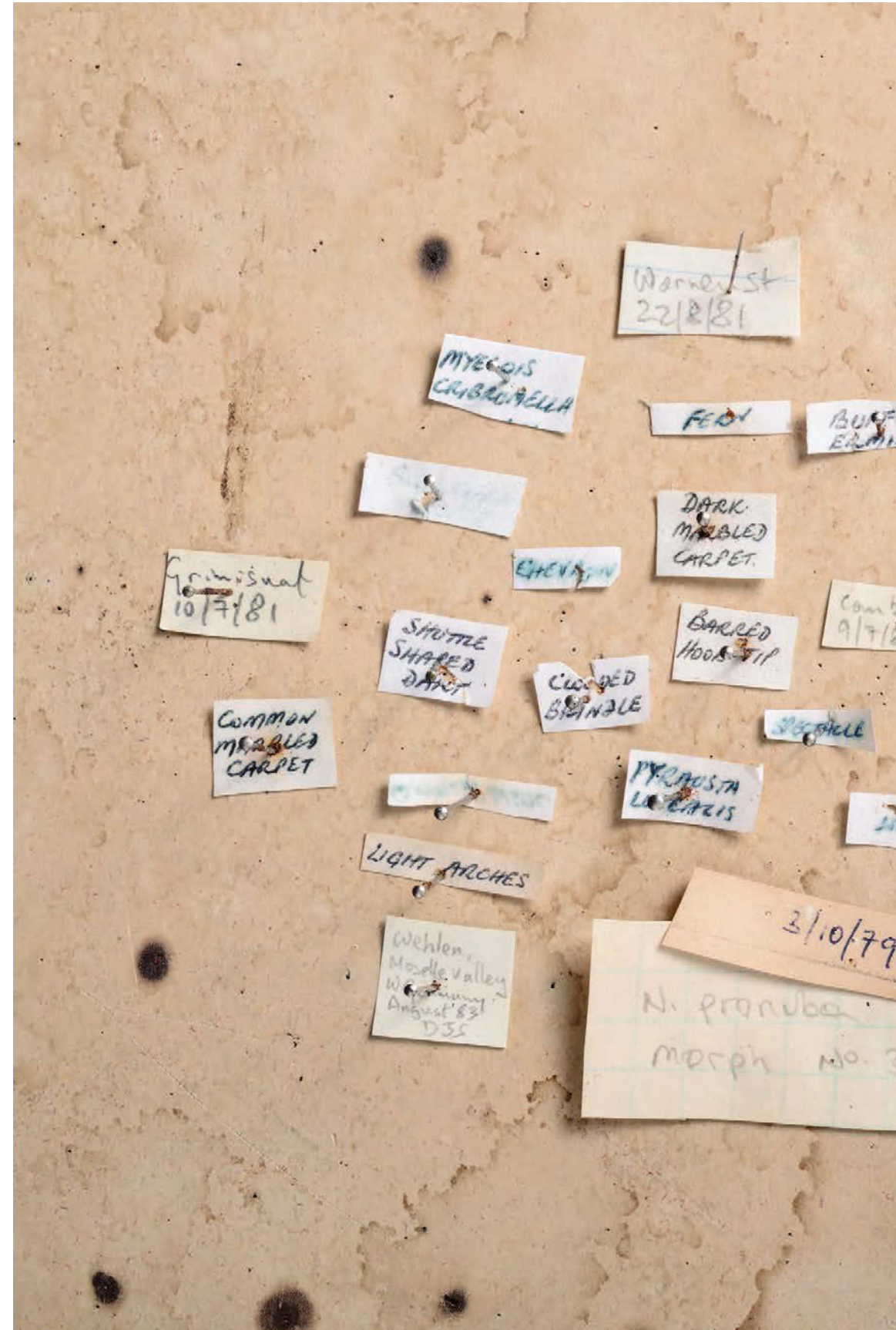
Common  
EMERALD

GRAY

SILVER

ROBIN  
SHEP

LIGHT







GHOST  
MOTH

IN  
GOLD

WISKY  
BEE

SWAMP  
MOTH











Prothstick

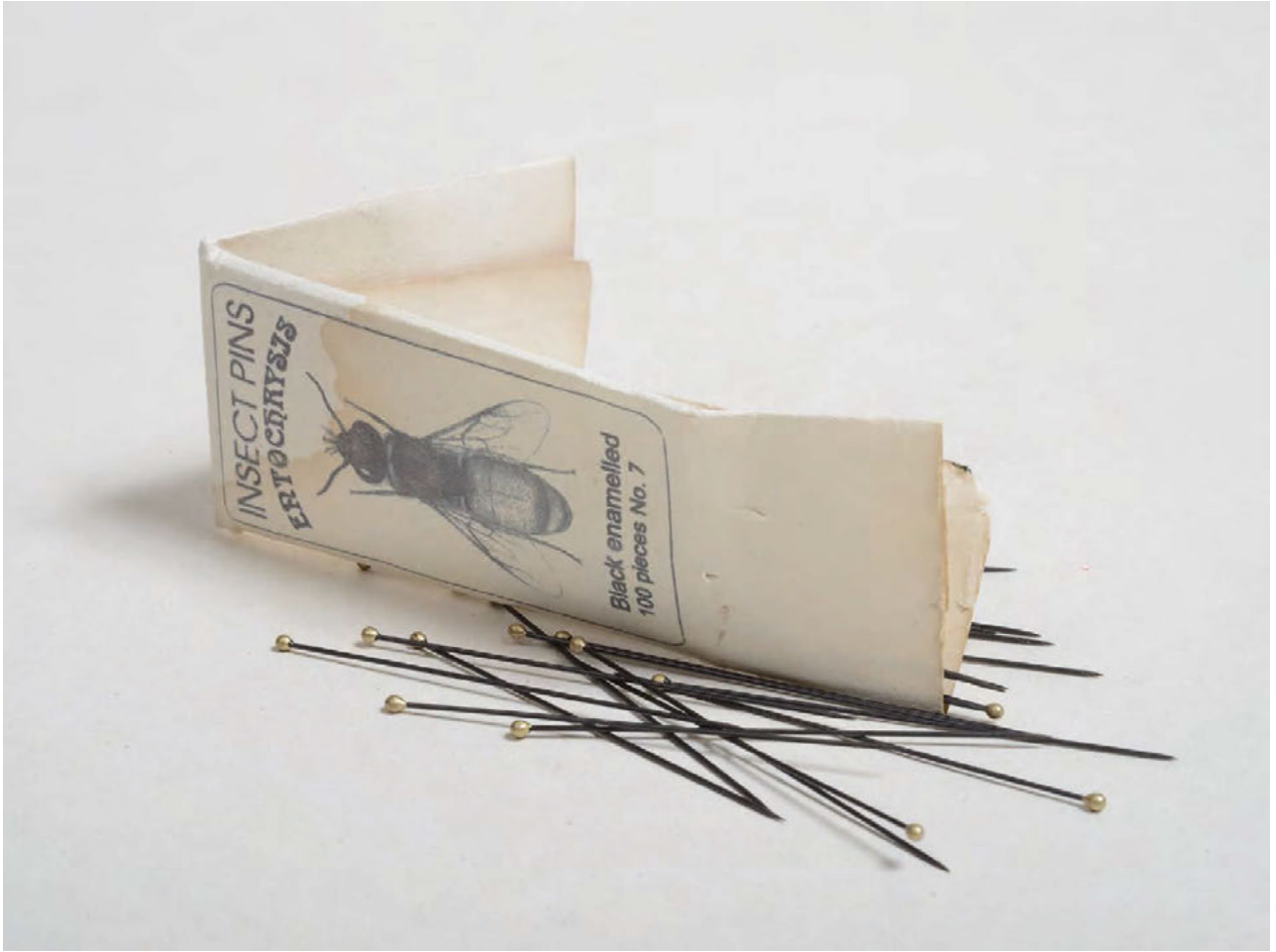
201 210  
6/2/2

*Graphis chlorea*  
SUD AMERICA

H.C.M.S. Bishop's Coll.  
Ex. Coll. A & B  
Acc. No. B1 1473

PROTH - 17/2/2  
15. Ceylon  
Bhithon











157

in 1812





THE  
MICROSCOPE  
AND ITS  
REVELATIONS





Garden  
fly



WATSON & SONS  
312, HIGH  
HOLBORN  
LONDON

Bibio  
hortulanus

Young  
Cockroaches  
*Blatta  
orientalis*



6.

ROEMER  
*Andrena*  
of  
Black fly  
PHEASANT



July 1858



Sting of  
House Bee



WATSON & SON  
313  
HIGH  
HOLBORN  
LONDON

Anthrenus



LEG of a  
HOUSE-FLY.

Skin  
of a House-fly

Dorsal view  
of a House-fly  
leg



S  
COL

STUDENT

PREPAR

THE NINOMIYA BIOL

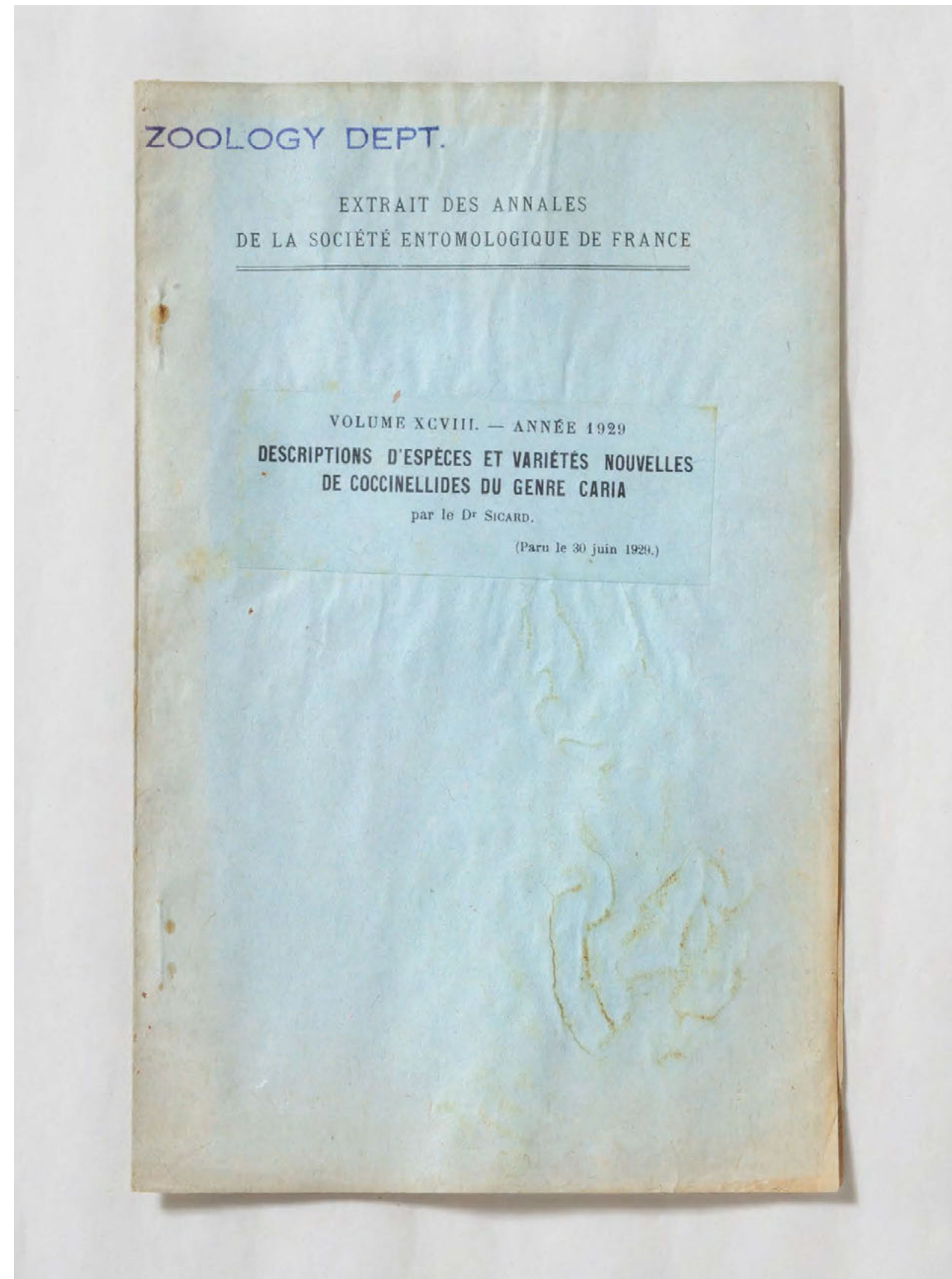


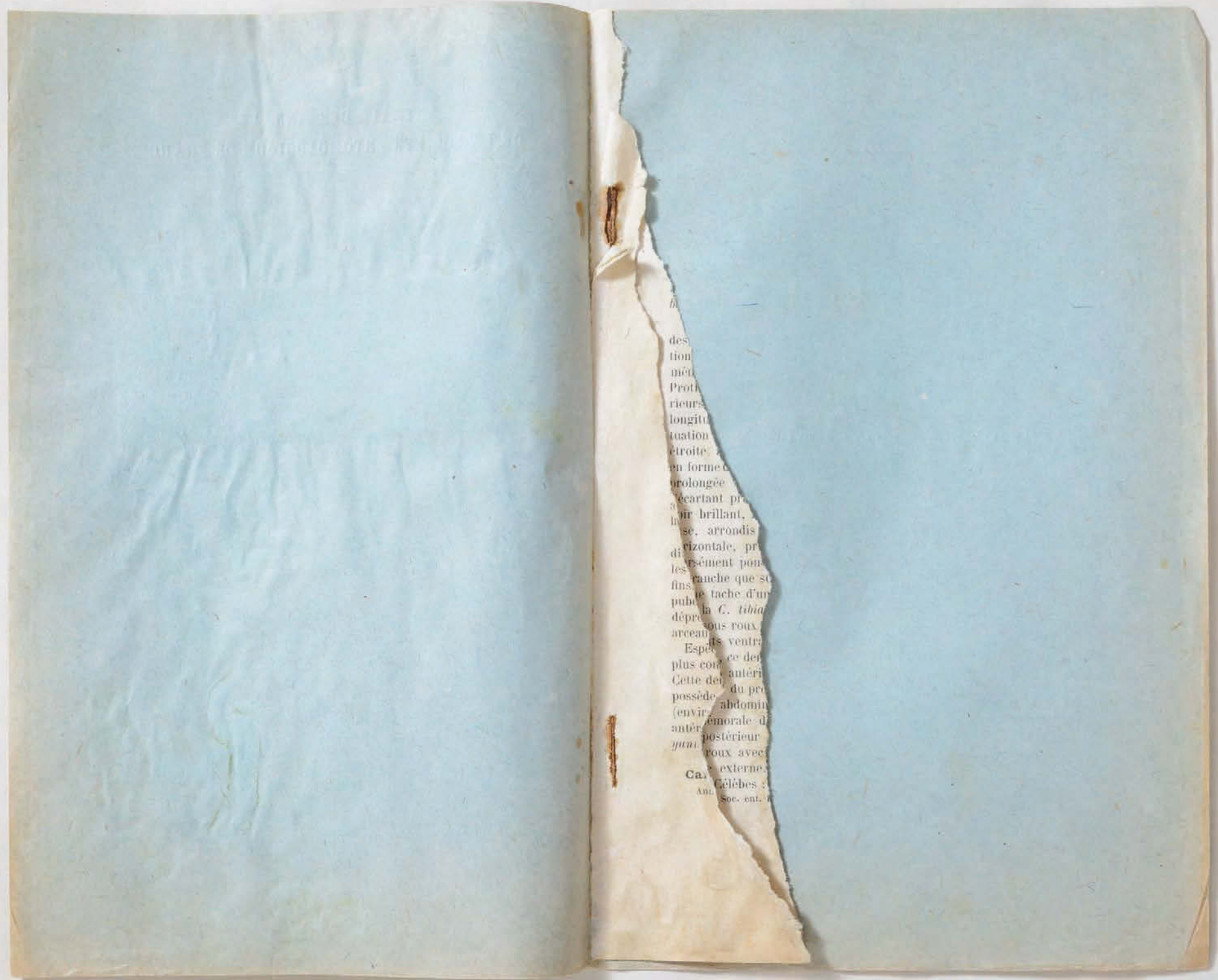
SCIENTIFIC  
COLLECTIONS  
FOR  
RESEARCH

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se, arrondis  
horizontale, pr  
les sèment pou  
ranche que so  
fine tache d'un  
pube la *C. tibia*  
dépre sous roux  
arceau des ventr  
Espèce de  
plus con antéri  
Celle de du pro  
possède abdomin  
(envir émorale d  
antér postérieur  
*yuni* roux avec  
externe  
Ca.  
Ant. Célèbes :  
Soc. ent.

EUROPEAN INVERTEBRATE SURVEY

PROVISIONAL ATLAS  
OF THE  
INSECTS OF THE BRITISH ISLES

Edited by John HEATH.

Part 1

LEPIDOPTERA RHOPALOCERA

Butterflies

(Maps 1 to 57)

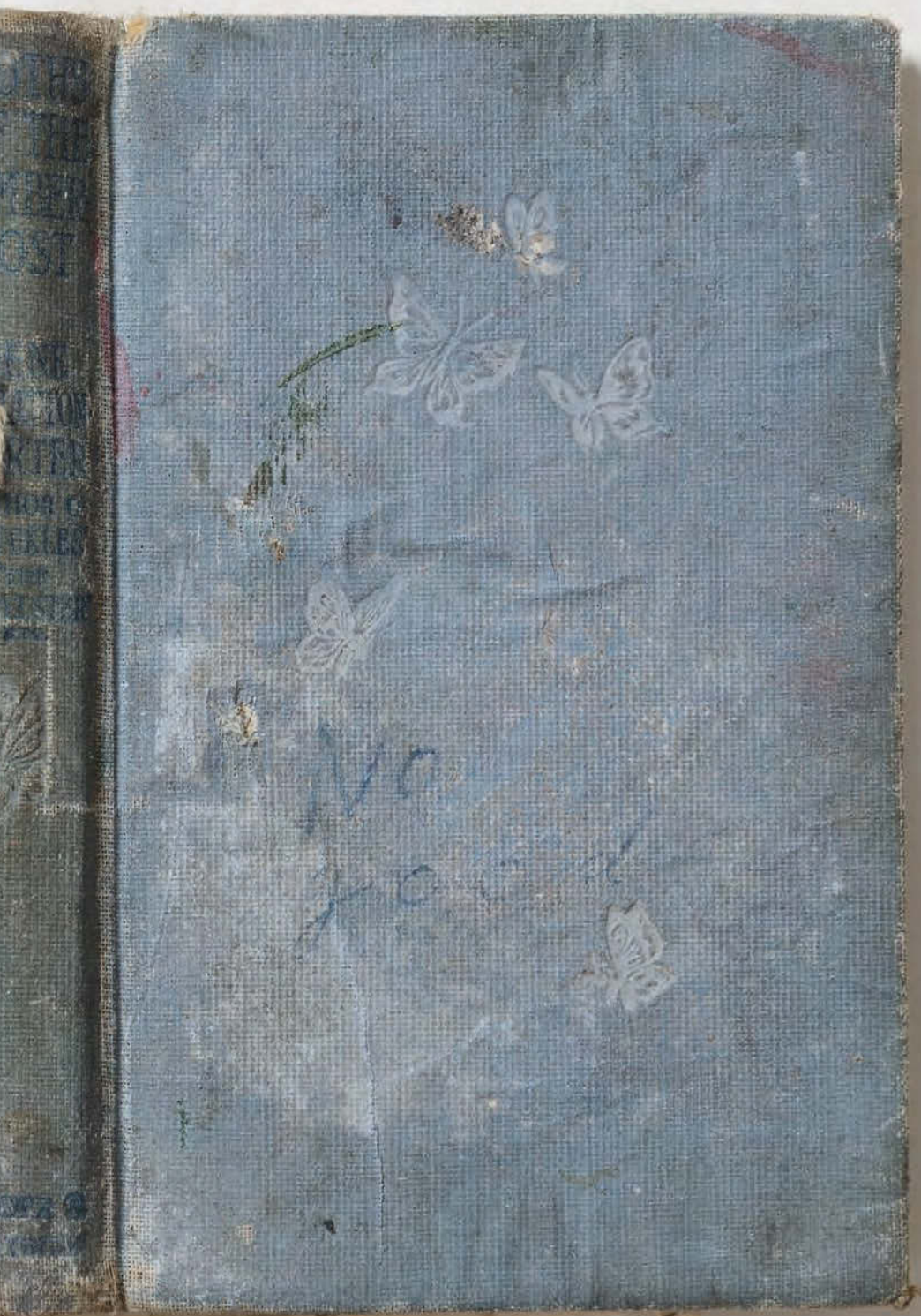
Biological Records Centre, Monks Wood Experimental Station,  
Abbots Ripton,  
Huntingdon.

1970.



PRICE 50p.





Daphne J. & C. Lyon





MOTHS  
OF THE LIMBERLOST

A BOOK ABOUT LIMBERLOST CABIN

By  
GENE STRATTON-PORTER

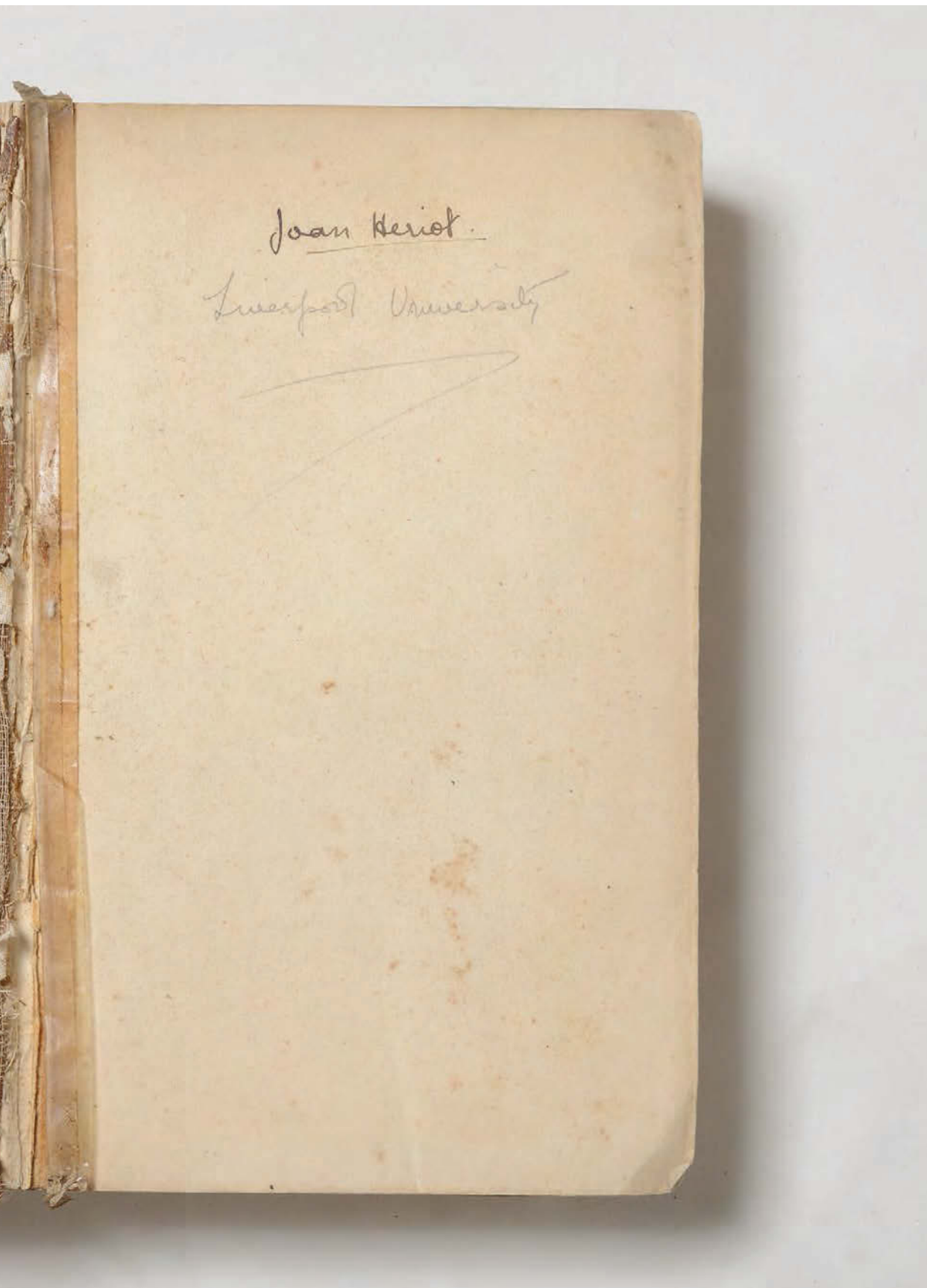
Author of "A Girl of the Limberlost," "Music  
of the Wild," "The Harvester," "At the  
Foot of the Rainbow," "The Song of  
the Cardinal," etc.



HODDER AND STOUGHTON  
LONDON NEW YORK TORONTO

1915

YORKSHIRE COLLEGE LECTURE.—The  
series of "lectures to the people," given under the  
auspices of the Yorkshire College, was delivered at the  
Philosophical Hall, Leeds, by Professor Miall, the subject  
being "Live Dust." There was again a large audience.  
Professor Miall commenced by referring to the mode of  
collecting dust for examination, especially dust floating in  
the air. A glass slip smeared with glycerine, he said, had  
been extensively used for the purpose of collecting the  
dust; but this method was open to the objection that all  
germs were killed by the glycerine, and that the volume  
of air which had yielded the dust could not be measured.  
Water shaken up in a large flask of air had been  
used to separate the dust, but by this means a sufficient  
volume of air could not be examined without using a  
vessel of inconvenient size. Atmospheric moisture, con-  
densed upon the surface of a vessel cooled by ice, had  
been collected and examined. The modern instrument  
for passing a measured current of air through a fine jet,  
and scrupulously collecting all the dust which it contains,  
was described in detail, and illustrated by means of  
lantern slides. Proceeding to point out the various kinds  
of dust found in the atmosphere, the lecturer spoke of  
volcanic dust, minute particles of magnetic iron (believed  
to be microscopic meteorites), the dead organic matter  
which forms a large proportion of common dust, and  
living organic dust. Of the last named the chief consti-  
tuents are pollen, spores of moulds and mildews, and  
bacteria. The bacteria, he observed, were of special  
interest from their connection with putrefaction and with  
certain deadly diseases. It was shown long ago by  
Schwann that bacteria were indispensable to putre-  
faction, and that the most unstable organic fluid  
would not putrify unless living bacteria got access  
to it. This demonstration ultimately led to  
Lister's antiseptic surgery, a discovery the practical  
importance of which could not be overrated, for it was  
probable that antiseptic surgery had done as much to  
reduce human suffering and death as the total abolition of  
war in European countries would do. (Applause.) The  
life history of some common bacteria was described, and  
an account given of the way in which a necessary con-  
nection between particular forms of bacteria and  
infectious fevers had been ascertained. The great number  
of bacteria everywhere present in the air made us  
feel that we were assailed by the germs of disease at  
every point. But two or three practical considerations  
might be shown to greatly diminish the risk. In the  
first place, the bacteria of disease formed only an insig-  
nificant proportion of the whole number of living germs  
present in the air; further, a great number of the bacteria  
of all kinds were dead, not more than one-twentieth  
being capable of germination in a suitable fluid; and  
lastly, the putrefactive and other less dangerous bacteria  
were very prone to get the upper hand of the more special  
and delicate organisms which constituted the germs of  
infectious disease. Practical remedies with regard to the  
dangerous forms of dust were explained, the principal of  
these being the use of antiseptic substances, the removal  
from the neighbourhood of large towns of dangerous  
trades such as created quantities of dust or involved  
putrefactive processes, the simplification of household  
furniture, and especially the doing away with any very  
elaborate woollen hangings in houses, the multiplication  
of grass spaces, improved cleanliness in streets, and com-  
plete detachment of the air of dwelling-houses from  
possible contamination with sewer gas. No public body  
individual who was careless about dust could  
enforce this homely doctrine of experi-  
ence than by showing more and better  
common sense than by showing more and better  
wisdom. (Applause.)







BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

(BRITISH)





FIG. 68.—Nilgiri Chafers.

- 1, *Anomala olivieri*, Shp.; 2, *A. pallida*; 3, *A. regina*, Newm.; 4, *Gyrinus* (unidentified); 5, *Melasia barberi*, Shp.; 6, *Serica nilgiriensis*, Shp.; 7, *Holotrichia repetita*, Shp.; 8, *Adoretus ovalis*, Bl.; 9, *A. conferta*, Shp.; 10, *Anomala ignicollis*; 11, *Popillia* (unidentified); 12, *Serica pilula*, Shp. (Original photo by Dr. C. A. Barber.)

THE GRAPHIC

hich, from  
gravating  
urning out  
charm of a  
prise, like a



MICROSCOPIC PREPARATIONS OF THE BRITISH MYMAR  
(EGG PARASITES)  
Exhibited by Mr. Fred Enoch, F.E.S.

phenomena; they are due to the structure imparted to  
the stationary waves of incident light during ex-  
posure. These colours are perfectly pe-

of plan...  
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are "I...  
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on seizes you; you exclaim, "I will not...  
young graces of hers, and I will not...  
you perform (as Lord Lytton expresses) also...  
ocess of dressing. Then you seat yourself...  
he ham and toast, the eggs and sardines, you ask...  
hich, with so happy an audacity, you have si...  
erved for Pleasure.  
moment. The questi... shall I go?" o...  
with Bradshaw...  
day











10



218

MEN OF ANI

27/A

MAY 5 1929



## **Acknowledgements**

Rich Cutler would like to thank the technical staff and tutors of the MA Photography course at the University of Brighton, and his fellow students, who have guided his photography over the past two years. He is also grateful to Steve White of One Digital, bookbinder Hannah More, and the staff and volunteers at the Booth Museum of Natural History in Brighton.

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