

Societas entomologica.



Journal de la Société entomologique internationale.

Toutes les correspondances devront être adressées à Mr. le président **Fritz Rühl** à **Zürich-Hottingen**. Messieurs les membres de la société sont priés d'envoyer des contributions originales pour la partie scientifique du journal.

Organ für den internationalen Entomologenverein.

Alle Zuschriften an den Verein sind an den Vorstand desselben Herrn **Fritz Rühl** in **Zürich-Hottingen** zu richten. Die Herren Mitglieder des Vereins sind freundlich ersucht, Originalbeiträge für den wissenschaftlichen Theil des Blattes einzusenden.

Organ for the International-Entomological Society.

All letters for the Society are to be directed to Mr. **Fritz Rühl** at **Zürich-Hottingen**. The Hon. members of the Society are kindly requested to send original contributions for the scientific part of the paper.

Some notions about Caucasus.

It is a fact, that the enthusiasm for natural sciences has gradually increased during the last ten years. Numerous discoveries have been made upon this ground, literature has been enriched with new works, the number of naturalists has doubled, if not tripled, and all this has undoubtedly contributed to widen the circle of the knowledge itself.

Nowadays, expeditions into the wide world are frequently spoken of in the papers, as organized either by scientific institutions or even by private persons, but it is not yet all. Indefatigable tourists are undertaking by themselves long travels, and there are but few spots on the earth, that have not been trodden by the foot of the naturalist, so striking and feverish is the general desire to procure new materials to the science.

But it is surprising indeed, that whilst so many travellers are going to Africa, Asia on the contrary attracts very few of them, to mention China, Persia, Sibiria, and particularly the Caucasus, just the country of my predilection, that is almost unknown and unvisited till to day.

And as I spent there a long time, and had the occasion of convincing myself personally, that it is indeed a California, a promised land for the naturalist, I was not little astonished to see how neglected and rather avoided it was by travellers.

But I found soon the key of the riddle. It lay in false reports of all sorts of peril and danger, that have been so liberally spread about Caucasus, and that I verified by my own experience to be dreadfully exaggerated, as to the murderous climate, the fiendly disposition of the natives against strangers, their rudeness and barbarity and so on.

It would be even difficult to enumerate all the absurdities that have been written and published on this account by some tourists. Beyond false reports proceeding from ignorance of the language

and local circumstances, or from improper informations, it is easy to guess still other motives. For, evidently, the greater part of such descriptions has been chiefly founded upon effect, the purpose of the author having been to represent himself in the light an uncommon hero, in order to interest the reader with his adventures and at the same time to make his own name celebrated about the world.

It is true, that there are authors, to which we are indebted for very precious indications, such as we find for instance in the publications of the statistical club in Tiflis, containing every information, that may be of use and need to the naturalist. But unfortunately it is written in Russian, printed with Russian print called „Grazdanka“ and therefore lost for the foreigners of the west, who generally do not have any idea either of the language or of the print. Therefore the second reason, why so many travellers prefer going to America or Africa than to Caucasus, is the want of proper informations, as well as total ignorance as to the ways of communication, and the costs of the journey and sojourn.

Considering all this, I determined to state the principal characteristic touches of the place, as well as some practical informations, gathered by my own experience.

Ad. Sulima of Ulanowski.

Ueber Raupenkrankheiten.

Seit circa vier Jahren musste ich die bittere Erfahrung machen, dass mir meine Zuchten von verschiedenen Saturniaarten, fast sämmtlich durch Pilze zu Grunde gingen, und zwar waren es vorzugsweise die Species *Att. Cynthia*, *Anth. Pernyi*, und *Sat. Pavonia*, welche zuerst davon betroffen wurden, *Plat. Cceropia*, *Att. Atlas* widerstanden der Krankheit länger, doch auch diese starben, kurze Zeit vor ihrer Verwandlung.

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Autor(en)/Author(s): Sulima Adam

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