

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.

II.

In the first instance the climate ought to be divided in two categories: the mountains and the stepps. The climate of the mountains, that are covered with splendid vegetation and immense virgin forests, is variable and rough, but wholesome, as to begin with 4000' the ague is unknown. The climate of the valleys, also not murderous as some pretend, is assuredly very unwholesome, particularly so in the moors that surround Poti and Batum and in the district of Lencoran, extending to the shore of the Caspian sea. Typhus and malaria reign there almost permanently, and it is but too true, that Caucasian malaria and ague is a dreadful illness, exhausting and ruining the organism, — still a naturalist who goes exploring and can't stay long at any place, has more chance of avoiding the local illnesses, than he, who lives without changing his abode.

It is a fact that strangers, that are provided with real quinine from Europe (in Caucasus they sell quinoidyne and Cynchonine instead of quinine) and take it now and then as a preservative, particularly when staying in low damp places, who do not expose themselves to the cold of the night, do not drink fresh water, are rather moderate in eating fruit, and keep strictly to the common principles of hygiëna, shall be quite safe and healthy. If somebody neglects these rules and falls ill, well, it is rather his own fault, which may be easily avoided by being cautious and temperate.

Now, the natives, with some exceptions of course, are kind, hospitable people. The first place among them keep the inhabitants of the mountains of Dhagestan, and the brave Lesghins, after them goes a tribe called Touchins, as well as the Russian sect known under the name of

Malakans. All these fellows are so honest and honourable, that you may thoroughly confide in each of them, you may enter their houses, stay there as long as you like; your life and your money is safe among them. Their hospitality is indeed extraordinary, they give you eating and drinking in profusion and would be offended if you wanted to pay for it,—they are so happy to have a guest, that they consider him as something sacred and would feel dishonoured, if some accident were to happen to him under their roof.

Quite the reverse it is with the *Gruzens*, who are false, cupid and treacherous and therefore it is better to avoid them and never require their services, never enter into relations with them. It is but too well known that all the malefactors have been recruited among them.

As for the Tartares, who neither deserve confidence and are to be met every where about Caucasus, one must be exceedingly cautious with them. As base and cupid as the Gruzins, he is friendly and hospitable at home, but as soon as you have left his house, he does not know you and becomes your enemy and is quite ready to kill you, not for killing, but for robbing'sake, if your horse, your arms, or some jewel of little value has excited his cupidity. Fortunately, he is the most cowardly creature in the world. Therefore, although meeting with Tartares in a wilderness, particularly if they are superior in number, is not a delightful event, yet if you do not show the least trace of fear or uneasiness, your cold blood may help you even out of a somewhat difficult position. Your courage overpowers them morally and they loose their aggressiveness, as soon as they see, that one is not ready to yield and submit to them.

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