

Worcester, Mass

Apr. 7. 1869

My dear Sir:

I am greatly obliged
for your kindness in sending
me so many specimens of
Reptiles; they came quite
safely & will help me ma-
terially in any future com-
parisons I may wish to
make. I chanced to find
my original list of the
species and numbers, this
morning, & notice that the
list I sent you was accurate
save the one particular, - there

Should have been a query
after No. 10.

I had the pleasure of
sending you a copy of the
Harris correspondence, a
day or two ago & a copy of
my paper on mole crickets
I hoped they reached you
safely.

You will see by the
May number of the Amer-
ican Naturalist that I am
about to publish a work
on New England Butterflies.
I would esteem it a great
favor if you could induce
any of your students who

are or who are willing to be
interested in the subject,
to send me specimens of
Larvae &c. I will refer you
to the Magazine for par-
ticulars as it would take
too long to write them.

With assured thanks
for your kindness

I am very sincerely yours

Saml. H. Scudder

Dr. J. W. Dawson

Sendin
April 17
1864

1869
Scudder
1869

DEAR SIR:

Permit me to call your attention to a work I have in preparation upon the Butterflies of New England; it will form an octavo volume of from two to four hundred pages, amply illustrated with colored plates of butterflies, caterpillars, chrysalids and eggs, and will be published early in 1870. As far as possible, it will contain a complete history and description of every stage of each species known or likely to occur in New England and the adjacent regions; the geographical distribution of the butterflies, both in and out of New England, will receive careful attention, and the work will virtually form a manual for all the Northern United States and Canada.

To render the volume as complete and useful as possible, your coöperation is earnestly solicited in securing living or fresh specimens of larvæ, etc., from which colored illustrations can be made. These may best be obtained by confining a female of any species in a small, dark box—a pill box, for instance—where she will lay her eggs, which can easily be reared; if the food-plant of the larvæ is not known, I will be happy to give any information; or, the plant may sometimes be detected by observing over what species the butterfly seems to hover. Specimens are desired, of the egg, of each stage of the larva and of the chrysalis of every species; they should be sent promptly by mail in light boxes (tin is preferable) to the address below, marked, in addition, "**Insects,**" to secure prompt attention. The specimens should be accompanied by the name and address of the sender and, when known, the name of the insect (or, far better, by the very insect that laid the eggs) and of the plant on which it feeds; if larvæ are sent, fresh moistened leaves of their food-plant should be placed in the box with them.

Complete lists of the species found in different localities are also desired, and especially, if accompanied by careful memoranda of the exact times of the first appearance and of the duration of each brood. It will be necessary to receive specimens from every possible quarter, to arrive at a definite knowledge of the habits of insects in different places. To secure this more effectually, I am willing to name any collection of local butterflies sent to me (with notes) about the first of October; such collections would be returned before the first of January; for the safety, however, of my own collection, and of others entrusted to me, it will be necessary to return at once, and unnamed, any collection showing traces of having been previously attacked by Museum pests.

For all favors or scientific intelligence received, the amplest credit will be given, and earnest attention is called to this appeal, as without material assistance, it will be impossible, in a single season, to obtain the necessary specimens to complete the undertaking.

SAMUEL H. SCUDDER,
Boston Society of Natural History,
Berkeley St., Boston, Mass.

BOSTON, Apr. 8, 1869.

MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

at W. Bay
Sunderland
Circular
1869

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