Saunders, president, in the chair.—Prof. Westwood exhibited specimens of *Haltica aurata*, which he had found to be very injurious to young rose-leaves. Also, a portion of a walnut attacked by a Lepidopterous larva, probably a Tortrix; but he was unable to name the species, as it produced only an ichneumon. It was the first instance he had known of a walnut being attacked by an insect in this country. Mr. F. Moore stated that he had on one occasion reared *Carpocapra splendana* (a species that usually feeds on acorns) from a walnut.—Prof. Westwood made some remarks on the Yucca moth (*Pronuba yuccasella* Riley), of which some fifty specimens had been sent to him, in the pupa state, by Mr. Riley; but he had succeeded in rearing only three. He exhibited a drawing of a portion of the insect, showing the extraordinary form of the pulpi, which was especially adapted for collecting the pollen, with which it impregnated the female flowers. He directed attention to a full description of the insect and its habits by Mr. Riley, in the sixth Annual Report of the Insects of Missouri.—Prof. Westwood also exhibited some bees which had been sent to him from Dublin, having been found attacking the hives of the honey-bees. They were smaller than the honey-bee, and black, and he considered them to be only a degenerated variety of *Apis mellifica*. He suggested the probability of their being identical with the "black bees" mentioned by Huber. —Mr. Champion exhibited *Amara alpina* and other beetles from Aviemore, Invernesshire.—The Secretary exhibited some specimens of a Dipterous insect which had been found in the larva state in an old Turkey carpet. The larva was very long, slender, and serpentiform; it was white and shining, and had something the appearance of a wire worm, but much longer, and without feet. The name of the insect was not ascertained.—Mr. Bond exhibited specimens of *Argas pipistrellæ* parasitic on a bat, and also some *Acari* from a small species of fly; both were from the Isle of Wight.—Mr. Boyd exhibited specimens of *Thecla rubi* from St. Leonard's Forest, differing in certain points from the ordinary type.—Mr. Wormald exhibited a collection of butterflies sent from Japan by Mr. H. S. Pryer.—Mr. W. Cole exhibited some galls of a species of *Cecidomyia*, found in West Wickham Wood.—Mr. F. Smith exhibited some earthen cocoons found on wet mud at Weymouth by Mr. Joshua Brown. They proved to belong to a Dipterous insect (*Machærium maritimum*), one of the *Dolichopidæ*.—Mr. S. Stevens exhibited specimens of *Asopia nemoralis* from Abbot's Wood, Lewes, and other Lepidopterous insects.—Mr. Butler exhibited a copy of a very rare (if not unique) book, which had recently come into the possession of Mr. E. W. Janson, entitled Lee's "Coloured Specimens to illustrate the Natural History of Butterflies" (London, 1806). He could not find that it had been quoted in any synonymic catalogue, and it contained coloured drawings and diagnoses of nineteen species of butterflies.—The Rev. H. S. Gorham read descriptions of species of Endomycid Coleoptera not comprised in his catalogue, "Endomycici recitati." Also, Some remarks on the genus *Helota* (*Nitidulidæ*), of which he described a new species from Japan.—Dr. Sharp communicated a supplementary paper On some additional Coleoptera from Japan.—Prof. Westwood communicated Descriptions of new species of *Cetoniidæ*, principally from the collection of Mr. Higgins.—The President announced that the library of the Society would remain for another year at 12, Bedford Row, and it was hoped that by that time some more permanent and suitable place would be obtained for it.—Part III. of the Transactions of the Society for 1874 were on the table.

PARIS

Academy of Sciences, July 13.—M. Bertrand in the chair.—The perpetual secretary announced the death of M. Angström, and the president made some remarks expressive of the regret of the Academy at the loss they had sustained. The following papers were read:—Observations relating to M. Tacchini's last note and to the recent memoir of M. Langley, by M. Faye. The author gave an extract from Langley's memoir, showing that this observer accepted, with certain restrictions, the cyclone theory of sun-spots.—On chemical actions other than metallic reductions produced in capillary spaces, by M. Becquerel. This is a continuation of the author's researches in electrochemistry.—Observations on the subject of the establishment of an inland sea in Algeria, by M. de Lesseps.—Memoir on the chronological classification of geological formations, by A. E. B. de Chancourtois.—On some applications of Abel's theorem to curves of the second degree relative to the elliptic functions, by M. H. Léanté.—On the observation of a phenomenon analogous to that of the "*goutte noire*," by M. Devic.—Observations on the obstacles to be opposed to the attack of vines by Phylloxera, a letter from M. Bourgeois to M. Dumas. The writer made four propositions relating to (1) the direct destruction of the insects; (2) the preservation of isolated stocks; (3) the preservation of a field of vines not attacked; and (4) treatment of a field partially attacked. Several members made remarks on the same subject. M. Elie de Beaumont suggested the use of snow. —Note relating to the *viriel* of M. Clausius, by M. F. Lucas.—Note relating to the theory of osculatory surfaces, by Mr. Spottiswoode. — Remarks on the pyrheliometric observations of Pouillet, a reply to the criticisms of M. Faye, by M. Duponchel. — On chemical achromatism, by M. Prazmowski. This was a note descriptive of the construction of the photographic objective to be used by M. Janssen for photographing the solar disc.—Second note on the electric conductivity of ligneous bodies, by M. Th. du Moncel.—On indications furnished by conjugate thermometers *in vacuo*, by M. Marié-Davy.—Qualitative research on arsenic in organic and inorganic substances, by MM. Mayençon and Bergeret. The authors have devised a new plan for detecting arsenic (depending upon the action of arsenetted hydrogen on mercuric chloride), which possesses extreme delicacy.—Action of heat on the isomers of anthracene and their hydrides, by M. Ph. Barbier. The author has extended his investigations to the following substances:—the two ditolyls, ethylene and diphenyl mixed, and benzyltoluene. Fritzsche's phosene appears to have been a mixture of anthracene and phenanthrene.—New experiments on human locomotion, by M. Marey.—New experimental researches on inflammation and mode of production of leucocytes of pus, by M. J. Picot. Action of salts of biliary acids, by MM. V. Feltz and E. Ritter.—Observations on the first phases of development of *Pelobates fuscus*, by M. G. Moquin-Tandon. These phases are in the main identical with those of the common toad.—Analyses of the samples of wine exhibited at the exhibition of the Pavillon du Progrès, by M. Ch. Mène.—On globular lightning, by M. Gaultier de Claubry. This was a description of some of the effects of the thunderstorm which broke over Paris on Thursday the 9th inst.

BOOKS RECEIVED

AMERICAN.—Baird's Annual Record, 1873.—Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, vol. xvi. part ii.—Field Ornithology, comprising a Manual of Instruction for procuring, preparing, and preserving Birds, and a Check List of North American Birds: Dr Elliott Coues, U.S.A. (Trübner). —The Birds of Florida, Part iii.: C. J. Maynard (Ipswich, U.S.A.).—Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural Science (Warren & Co., Buffalo).—Circles of Deposition of American Sedimentary Rocks: J. S. Newberry.—Theory of Arches: Prof. W. Allan (Van Nostram, N.Y.).—My Visit to the Sun; or, Critical Essays: Laurence S. Benson (J. S. Burton, N.Y.).—Annual Report of the Trustees of the Museum of Zoology, Harvard, Camb. U.S.A. for 1873.—Birds of Western and North-Western Mexico: G. A. Lawrence (Boston Natural History Society).—The Organisation and Progress of the Anderson School of Natural History (Welch, Biglow & Co., Camb. U.S.A.).—Sea Fisheries of the South Coast of New England: Spencer and Baird (Washington).—The Vertebrate Animals of Vineyard Sound: A. E. Verrill and S. J. Smith (Washington).—First, Second, and Third Annual Reports of the United States Geological Survey of the Territories for 1867-69 (Washington).—Geological Survey of Ohio, vol. i. Palæontology (Columbus).—Reports of the Geological Survey of Missouri, 1855-71 (Jefferson City).—Reports of the Geological Survey of Missouri Iron Ores and Coalfields, 1872 (N.Y.).—Atlas to Geological Survey of Missouri (N.Y.).

CONTENTS

© 1874 Nature Publishing Group