

[ 22 March 1932 ]

Mr. Bates' letters to Alfred" is written in pencil, probably by Mrs. Wallace, at the top of this letter which also contains the following interesting reference to Wallace who was on the point of returning from his first expedition up the Rio Negro and the unknown Uaupés:—

"I think no one knew where he was residing and many months have passed since he wrote to Pará. I have just heard, however, that he is expected daily at Pará [the modern Manaus] of the Rio Negro with a very rich collection and I will write him by the first canoe that leaves for that place."

The collection referred to was, with others, destroyed when Wallace's ship was wrecked and was abandoned, on the voyage home, in August 1852.

The speaker felt sure that these few intimate details concerning the lives of two of the greatest among our past Fellows would be gladly received by the Fellows of the Society.

**Notes of publication and contents of the parts of Westwood (J. O.).  
*Introduction to the Modern classification of Insects, 1838-1840.***

PROULTON said that he had received the following notes by Mr. F. J. Griffin, Secretary of the Society.

I recently discovered whilst referring to the Minute Books of the Society that Westwood's *Introduction* appeared not in two volumes as is generally believed, but in a number of parts issued at intervals. I did not publish the results I then obtained as the records were not quite complete and I hoped to be able in some way to bring them to a finality before publication; this I am pleased to say is now possible owing to the kindness of Prof. Poulton. It is well known that Westwood was the first 'Professor' and that his Library is under the charge of that department. At Oxford recently, I discovered Westwood's own copy of his work with the original still in existence and manuscript notes of the contents in Westwood's handwriting. Printed on the wrappers is the date of publication for the month and day, but from the information in the Society's Minute Books, it is quite apparent that publication was made very early in the month if not actually on the 1st. Westwood was in the habit, it appears, of bringing the current part of his *Introduction* to the Meetings of the Entomological Society and presenting a copy to the Secretary and it is the record of this gift which fixes the date conclusively. It will be noted that in a few cases the Society was very late in receiving their part, so that in these cases no date other than the month can be fixed from the records. I am much indebted to Prof. Poulton for his assistance.

	Pages.	Sheets of Synopsis.	Date on Wrapper.	Date of receipt by the Ent. Soc. London.
Vol. 1.				
I.	1-48	B	May 1838	7.v.1838
II.	49-112		June 1838	4.vi.1838
III.	113-160	C	July 1838	8.viii.1838
IV.	161-224		Aug. 1838	7.x.1839
V.	225-288		Sept. 1838	3.viii.1840
VI.	289-352		Oct. 1838	1.x.1838
VII.	353-400	D	Nov. 1838	5.xi.1838
VIII.	401-462		Dec. 1838	3.xii.1838

Part.	Pages.	Sheets of Synopsis.	Date on Wrapper.	Date of receipt by the Ent. Soc. London.
Vol. 2.				
IX.	1-128		Jan. 1839	4.iii.1839
X.	129-192		Feb. 1839	4.ii.1839
XI.	193-224		Mar. 1839	4.iii.1839
XII.	225-256		Apr. 1839	6.v.1839
XIII.	257-288	E, F	June 1839	3.vi.1839
XIV.	289-352		Nov. 1839	2.xii.1839
XV.	353-400	G	Jan. 1840	6.i.1840
XVI.	401-587	H-L	June 1840	1.vi.1840."

Prof. POULTON said he was sure that this information on the appearance of Westwood's great work would be welcomed by the Fellows. He well remembered how his old teacher and friend told him with glee that the *Introduction* was in America as "The Entomologist's Bible"; also that Charles Darwin had evidence supplied by these two volumes, supported the claims of the author for the Royal Medal, awarded to him by the Royal Society in 1855.

Mr. K. Mellanby, a visitor, made remarks, illustrated by lantern slides, on the death of insects at high temperatures in dry and in moist air.

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Wednesday, December 2nd, 1931.

Mr. H. WILLOUGHBY ELLIS, Vice-President, in the Chair.

*Nominations.*

The SECRETARY read for the second time the nominations of the Council Officers and Council for 1932.

*Election of Fellows.*

The following was elected a Fellow of the Society:—EWEN CAMERON, Farnham House Laboratory, Farnham Royal.

*Report on Wicken Fen.*

The SECRETARY read the following report received from Messrs. E. C. B. and H. M. EDELSTEN, the Society's representatives on the Wicken Fen Committee.

We were appointed by this Society in 1926 to represent them on the Committee of Management of Wicken Fen. Either both, or one of us attended the annual meeting of the Committee held at Cambridge in July of each year.

At the time of our appointment Wicken Sedge Fen was fast becoming an impenetrable thicket. The work of cutting had been brought to a standstill during the Great War and there was no market for sedge or reed, consequently there was no income, except from donations, and these were, and still are, quite inadequate for the work required to restore the Fen to its former state.

Parts of the Fen had been neglected for years, many plots were covered with dense bush comprising buckthorn, sallow and Guelder-rose, and the N