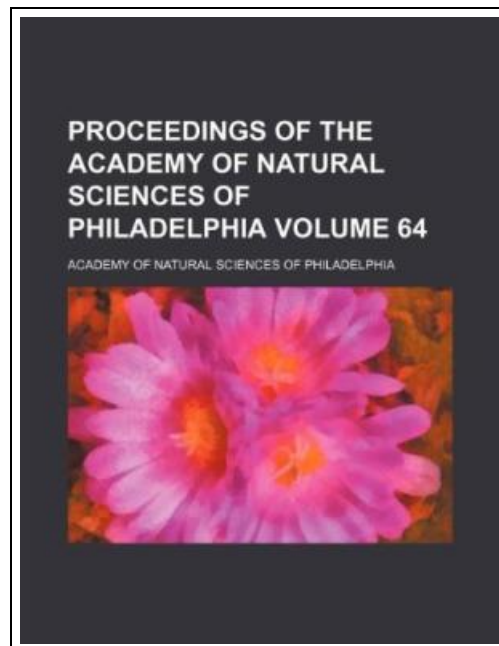


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(Joanie Hamill I)

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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1913 Excerpt: .with crumbs on it on which the larva had been placed (p. 206). The larva of Chcerocampa is a large one the ocellated spots are present only in last stage; if so useful, why is this the case?) and its size alone is sufficient to explain the actions of the small birds. In the case of the sparrows at least, almost any strange object of the same size might cause the same reaction. Anything new about their regular haunts is viewed with suspicion. In regard to the Cobra-like appearance of Chrocampa, Poulton says: It is likely that the terrifying appearance of our own larvae probably first arose in the tropics, where the imitated cause of alarm to the enemies of the larvae is real and obvious. And it is probable that the success of the same method in countries where the reptilian fauna cannot be said to constitute a source of alarm is due to the inherited memories of a tropical life which live on, as that instinctive fear of anything snake-like which is so commonly exhibited by the higher land vertebrates, including ourselves (p. 204). What a characteristic piece of selectionist reasoning(?); at least four very debatable biological propositions, namely, the tropical origin of the European fauna, its origin in a part of the tropics having cobras, and instinctive fear in man and other vertebrates, are practically taken as established facts. Aside from these assumptions, the argument is very amusing also when contrasted with that...



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