

plished by his touching the one before him, this one communicated the fact to the next in advance, and so on till the information reached the leader, when the whole line was again put in motion. On counting the number of caterpillars I found it to be 154, and the length of the line 27 feet. I next took the one which I had abstracted from the line, and which remained coiled up, across the line; he immediately unrolled himself, and made every attempt to get admitted into the procession, after many endeavours he succeeded and crawled in, the one below falling into the rear of the interloper. I subsequently took out two caterpillars about fifty from the head of the procession; by my watch I found the intelligence was conveyed to the leader in thirty seconds, each caterpillar stopping at the signal of the one in his rear; the same effect was observable behind the break, each stopping at a signal from the one in advance; the leader of the second division then attempted to recover the lost connection; that they are unprovided with the senses of sight and smell appeared evident, since the leader turned right and left and often in a wrong direction when within half an inch of the one immediately before him: when he at last touched the object of his search, the fact was communicated again by signal, and in thirty seconds the whole line was in rapid march, leaving the two unfortunates behind, who remained perfectly quiet without making any attempt to unroll themselves. I learn from a medical gentleman here that these caterpillars feed on the *Eucalyptus*, and that when they have completely stripped a tree of its leaves they congregate on the trunk and proceed in the order here described to another tree. The caterpillars I saw must be nearly full grown, measuring about $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches each in length.

I have seen the empty shells of *chrysalides* four inches long; the moths from them must be as large as *Erebus Strix*. We have some very beautiful flowers. *Orchideæ* have been very numerous. *Mimosæ* and *Epacridæ* are just now fading. In the plains there are *Ranunculi* in full bloom, and an extremely beautiful double *Centaurea*. There are tree mallows by the river six or eight feet high. I shall send a few lizards, a fine snake sixty-one inches long, and a few scorpions.—*A. H. Davis*.—*Adelaide, South Australia, 6th September, 1838.*

Description of a new species of Lamia.—

Lamia Lucia. Lanuginosa, brunnea, capite obscuriori, prothoracis maculæ tres lætè flavi; elytra lætè flava, marginibus scutellari et costati brunneis; cætera brunnea. (Corp. long. 1.5 unc. lat. .35 unc.)

Clothed with a thick coating of short hairs. The *antennæ* are rather shorter than the body, and, together with the head, are of a deep

brown colour approaching to black. The *prothorax* is slightly broader than the head, and has a short and very obscure spine situated near the middle of each side; the sides are moreover a little wrinkled; it is of a rich velvety brown colour, with three large yellow spots on the upper side; one of these is situated centrally, is broad anteriorly and narrow posteriorly but does not quite reach either of the margins; the other spots are situated one on each side, are of an oblong shape, rather wider posteriorly. The *scutellum* and the parts of the *elytra* immediately adjoining it, are brown. The *elytra* are yellow, the lateral margins being bordered by a somewhat flexuose brown line, which ceases before the apex. The underside and legs are brown.

Inhabits Congo.

This magnificent insect I believe to be unique in the British Museum; it was brought to this country by Tuckey's expedition.—*Edw. Newman.*—*Deptford, Feb. 22nd, 1839.*

Botanical Society of London.—The number of Members amounts to 100, of which 42 are resident, 34 corresponding, and 24 foreign,—47 having been elected since the last Anniversary: and the Council are happy to state that they have received no notice of secession of Members.

The number of Specimens of British Plants received, amounts to 18,592, including 1050 species, from which the Society's collection has been considerably enriched; especially through the kindness of Mr. Baxter, who has presented a valuable collection of British *Salices*, comprising 44 species, from specimens presented by Mr. Borrer to the Oxford Botanic Garden. The Society has also received nearly the whole of the British *Carices*; and solicit the attention of members in completing the genera *Rosa* and *Rubus*, and the *Cryptogamia*.

The number of foreign plants received is 10,000 specimens. The Council have much gratification in stating that they have made arrangements with the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, who have promised them every assistance, and have contributed largely to the Society's British and foreign herbaria, and to the library. A mutual exchange of specimens will annually take place between the two Societies, which cannot fail to be advantageous to the members of both.

The Council have caused to be published a sheet containing the whole of 'DeCandolle's Natural Orders and Genera,' and the 'Linnæan Classes and Orders.' It is intended to answer the purpose of arranging British collections.—*Extract from the Second Annual Report, read 29th November, 1838.*