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SAMUEL HUBBARD SCUDDER.

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The Scudders are an old New England family with its center at Barnstable, on Cape Cod. Samuel Hubbard Scudder, the son of Charles and Sarah Lathrop (Coit) Scudder, was born in Boston, April 13, 1837. He received his early education in the Boston Latin School and then, like two of his brothers, entered Williams College, graduating from there with the class of 1857. David Coit Scudder, of the class of 1855, became a missionary to India and was drowned a few years after taking up his work. Horace Elisha Scudder, of the class of 1858, was a man of letters and was for some time the editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*. A third brother, Charles, was long prominent in business in Boston, being for years treasurer of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and of the Boston Society of Natural History.

The incentives to a scientific life were at that time great at Williams—probably as great as at any other American College. Ebenezer Emmons, the eminent geologist, was in charge of the instruction in natural history, while Albert Hopkins, the intellectual peer of his better known brother, was a most enthusiastic student of nature. Then there was a student scientific society, the Lyceum of Natural History, founded in 1835, which was accumulating a library and a museum. This had a great influence on Scudder as it has on a long series of students who have aided in the development of American science.

One of the early works of the Lyceum was the preparation and publication of a catalogue of the local fauna and flora. To this catalogue, one of the rarest of American natural history papers, Scudder contributed the list of molluscs of the neighborhood of Williamstown. He also was of great assistance in the preparation of other parts of the lists.

Scudder had decided, before leaving college, to devote himself to entomology, and with that end in view he went to Cambridge to study with Agassiz, then in his prime. He has published an

account of the way the master began with him, and this has been reprinted many times. As a preparation for the study of insects the master set him at work at fishes. First he had to study a single specimen, day after day, with no other aid than his eyes. Then came the study of related forms and the beginning of a monograph of the group of Serranids, which, however, was never published. This account is still of great value as showing the pedagogic methods of one of the great teachers, described in the most charming manner.

The study with Agassiz continued, with interruptions, until 1862 when he received the degree of bachelor of science from the Lawrence Scientific School of Harvard. Then followed an appointment as assistant to Agassiz, which continued until 1864. In 1862 he also became the secretary of the Boston Society of Natural History, and when he left Agassiz it was to become also the custodian of the Boston Society. He continued to hold both offices until 1870.

From 1870 to 1879, when he became assistant librarian of Harvard University, he held no official position. In 1882 he was elected president of the Boston Society of Natural History and was annually reelected until 1887, when he refused to hold the office longer. The position in the Harvard library was resigned in 1882. In 1886 he was appointed paleontologist of the U. S. Geological Survey, with especial charge of the work upon fossil insects, the position being held until 1892. After that date he refused all official positions and, until stricken with the disease which, after years of suffering, caused his death, he devoted himself to his insect studies. His library and collections grew too large and too valuable to be longer accommodated in his house. So he built a large and attractive study in the yard, which formed their home as well as the meeting place of the Cambridge Entomological Club, as long as he was able to work.

Of his entomological work others will write in this number of *PSYCHE*. His general publications were comparatively few. Among them are to be enumerated that extremely useful work, the Catalogue of Scientific Serials (1879), that enormous task, the Nomenclator Zoologicus (1884) and an account of an early trip into the Winnipeg Country with one of the eclipse expeditions, which first appeared as by "A. Rochester Fellow" but soon was

acknowledged as his production. Here may also be mentioned his many contributions to Appalachia, dealing with outdoor life and adventure.

Scudder had the ability to recognize scientific needs and to start the machinery for meeting them. Thus as much to him as to any one was due the formation of the Cambridge Entomological Club and the establishment of this journal. He was also the leading spirit in the organization of the Appalachian Mountain Club. He and Edward S. Morse established the Boston Naturalists' Club, unique as being without a constitution and in having but a single officer. This club, which is still flourishing, has entertained every naturalist of note who has visited Boston since 1869.

Especial emphasis should be laid on his connection with the periodical 'Science.' There had been a struggling and jejune journal with that name but Scudder was able to interest some wealthy men in the project of a weekly scientific newspaper which should adequately represent all departments of science. So the old journal was bought, so as to control the name, and the new one was started, with Scudder as chief editor, in 1883. It was ably edited and rejoiced the hearts of the scientific men of the day. It began by paying for all contributions and soon exhausted its guarantee fund; there were not subscribers enough to pay the expenses and no one thought of the later expedient of making it the organ of some large association. So, after two years in the editorial chair, Mr. Scudder dropped out. The scientific public was not large enough and the general public would not support the journal, so, after lingering along for a few years it died.

So much for an outline of the scientific life of Dr. Scudder. There is a personal side which was far more interesting to those who were privileged to know him. I became acquainted with him in 1874, while I was a junior in college. He returned in that spring to his alma mater and, as he was the first active, publishing zoologist I had ever met, I must have made life a burden to him. Yet he was most helpful and suggestive and answered my every question with the utmost patience. Later, I came into more intimate connection with him when he was at work at his fossil myriapods and insects, as I was employed to draw many of these forms. Among these were numerous fossil cockroaches. Often these had all four wings superimposed and the difficulties of working out the nervures in

each separate wing were great. When my drawings came to him for criticism, I was astonished, again and again, at his extreme accuracy; a vein a hundredth of an inch from its proper position was always noted.

Another characteristic was a quiet humor; witness his selection of the lines from the "Dunciad" which appears on the title page of his *Nomenclature Zoologicus*:

Index learning turns no student pale
Yet holds the eel of science by the tail.

Then there was the case of the hairy fossil which he regarded as a myriapod and described as *Trichiulus*. Later he came to believe that he had been deceived by a bit of a fern, and I recall the way in which he said that the name selected was indicative of his error; he should have spelled it *Tricky Iulus*.

Scudder was most helpful to young naturalists. He could always find plenty of time to aid them over their difficulties. Specimens would be brought out, books hauled down and all of his rich stores of knowledge called upon. In larger affairs his judgment was always good and he bore a large part in all of the societies with which he was connected.

There were many sorrows in his life. Married in 1867 to Miss Jeannie Blatchford, they had one of the most charming of homes in Cambridge. But soon the wife sickened. The Riviera was visited in search of health but in vain, and she died when the only child, Gardner Hubbard Scudder, was a small boy. The boy grew up, graduated at Harvard and Harvard Medical School, and began work as an intern in the hospital, when he was attacked by an infectious disease to which he succumbed at the very outset of his active life. Then came, about 1896, the first stages of the disease which was to continue through his life, increasing gradually in severity, until, in a few years, all work was impossible and friends could be allowed but two or three minutes' conversation with him. He realized his condition, knew that his work was done, and so he gave away his collections and library and patiently waited for the end. His collections went to the Museum of Comparative Zoology; his library to the Boston Society of Natural History, those that were duplicated there passing to Williams College. At last, on May 17, 1911, he was relieved from his sufferings.



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