

OBITUARY.

The following particulars respecting our late correspondent have only recently been obtained:—

Oliver Jacob Staley, of Marshall, Saline Co., Mo., died July 6th, 1894 while on a collecting trip near home. His body was found by searching parties, in a creek, face downward. A sultry day induced him to bathe with fatal result. He was born in Princetown, Schenectady Co., N. Y., and removed with his parents to Marshall, Mo., thirteen years ago. He practiced law for about four years, and was in the twenty-fifth year of his age. A member of the Y. M. C. A., he was much respected by everybody. He published in the *CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST*, Vol. XXIV., p. 201, "A List of Butterflies found at Marshall, Missouri, and vicinity." During the last six years he had been actively collecting Lepidoptera.

R. E. KUNZE.

NOTE ON THE PLATYPTERYGIDÆ.

BY A. R. GROTE, A. M., BREMEN, GERMANY.

In the Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society for 1874 is published a list of certain family groups of Bombycine moths, and I retained there the term *Platypterices*, of Hubner, 1806, for the group to which now a distinct family value is given, and which should therefore bear the name *Platypterygida*. Already in 1868, *Trans. Am. Ent. Soc.*, I had proposed the subfamily termination to the corrected original term of Stephens: *Platyptericida*. The question as to which of the two terms should be employed, *Drepanida* or *Platypterygida*, should, I think, be decided in favour of the latter form of the plural use of the name by Hubner and Stephens. Schrank's original genus *Drepana* is the first generic term used in the group. The genus is a mixed one. It contains: 1, *D. sicula*; 2, *D. falcula*; 3, *D. flexula* (not belonging here); 4, *D. hamula*; 5, *D. lacertula*; 6, *D. spinula*. Schrank's definition is "Sichel-spinner." Laspeyres's restriction (1803) of the group under the name *Platypteryx* is the first to be made, and Hubner, in 1806, still further restricts Laspeyres's name to the single type *P. hamula*. To this structural type should the name *Platypteryx* be henceforth confined, and with this type our North American species, *arcuata*, *genicula* and *siculifer* appear to agree. From the description I have shown there is a probability that Stephens's *Drepana fasciata* was based upon one of our *Geometrida* belonging to *Drepanodes*. So far, then, as our fauna is concerned, the