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G. Frank Bamberg

Telephone Number 49

Bamberg, South Carolina

THE MODERN BRIDGE

Wonders of the Insect World.

The caterpillar of the monarch butterfly-hanging head downwardis ready for the metamorphosis. It hatches from a minute egg in late summer and has grown for two weeks. It stopped eating and wandered restlessly about, and has now chosen a secure spot on which it has spun a small, thick carpet of silk. It walked over this until the hind feet, with their many minute hooks were entangled in the silk; then, letting go its hold with the other pair of feet, it hung head downward, motionless. The skin now loosens, and after twenty-four hours, splits over It is a funny sight to see a meadow the head. At this stage the caterpillar becomes very active; by muscu- and performing on his banjo in the lar contraction it works the skin off attitude of a long-limbed fiddler of upward into a small, shriveled mass; then, during the few seconds longer that it still remains attached to the on the board floor of an antique New skin, it reaches out its slender end (which also is supplied with hooks) The whole process has taken but is a true "instrumentalist." salis studded with golden spots! In produces upon his listeners. this form the insect is wholly immov- It may be all imagination, but anyout. Such is one of the simplest and ness from a country road at night. best known stories of insect meta-

of studying human beings go to the soothe you into a delicious halfinsects. They will entertain you and slumber as you lie stretched at length give you a lot to think about. They under an apple tree. They are not have reached the treasury departwill make you laugh, for they are doing it for you, however. They are great mimics and performers. They probably unaware of your existence, newly designed quarters and half dolwill make you wonder, for they have and care nothing about you. They strangely wise ways which, if not are playing for their mates. without the trouble of thinking.

morphosis.

the radius of a circumscribed circle, memory with me.

but the bee is born with that knowledge, and proceeds to make her hex- ally to get ourselves, with the aid of agonal cells on a scheme of intersecting circles by instinct, thus missing the joy of seeing calculations come out correct.

Nowadays it is possible to take along your camera and bring back, with its aid, most interesting photographs of personages and scenes in the world of the insects. Of course, you must have the right kind of camera and know how to use it. Miss Mary Cythia Dickerson has some photographs of this kind in the journal of the American Natural History Mu- affections and passions. seum, which suggested this writing. grasshopper, perched on a grass pole the old days, flinging out high-keyed strains to set the dancers in motion England tavern.

The grasshopper fiddler is more and, with great effort and force, tireless than his human prototype, or pushes it up into the silk carpet. imitator. As Miss Dickerson says, he three or four minutes by the watch. seems to enjoy his own music. If The creature now rests. Slowly the you could only interpret the expresshape changes, the segments above sion of his face you would perhaps contracting, the form rounding out- find that he is grinning with delight and behold an emerald-green chry- over his own skill and the effects he

able-although wonderful changes how it is pleasing to suppose that inare taking place within, absorption sects that produce music have an esof structures useful to the caterpil- thetic appreciation of it. When the lar and perfecting of others neces- bullfrogs set up their thundering sary for the new life of the butter- chorus in a swamp, what do they do fly. In two weeks the pattern of the it for? Do you not suppose that they butterfly's brown and orange wings enjoy it? But a bullfrog is not an begins to show through; finally the insect. Well, then, a katydid, is and chrysalis skin, in its turn, splits over the katydids can make a concert cathe head, and the butterfly crawls pable of driving the sense of loneli-

Cicadas with their snare drums make a drowsy summer afternoon When you get temporarily weary languorously enjoyable, and may

the result of reasoning, prove that It is an unwarranted assumption Providence looks out for them more on our part that the joys of society carefully than for us, giving them and of domesticity are confined to the results of intelligent thought the human plane of existence. The insect world is full of musicians, and However, if that be so, they are therefore of lovers of music. The sign were struck off in 1916. the losers and not we, for it is a de- "cricket on the hearth" is a welcome light to run the machinery of the in- music-maker, even for haughty man. tellect. We have the pleasure of He has got himself into more than learning for ourselves that the sides one proud literature. I have not of a hexagon form chords equal to heard him for years, but I carry his the rain, but the farmer must do his

It is a good thing for us occasionobservation and imagination, into another world than ours, though covered by the same sky and based upon the same earth-a world whose inhabitants are not framed on our plan, though made of similar chemical elements, and capable of their own peculiar enjoyments. We think too continuously, perhaps, of the superiority of the backboned creatures. The insects have no backbones. But they have heads and limbs, and sometimes they give indications of having

They are as musical as birds, even if their music is usually less agreeable to our ears. I see no reason why a cicada's song would not sound well in heaven, or why the flash of a butterfly's wing would not appear beautiful there.

Notwithstanding the bad habits of the fly we should miss the insects if they were taken away from the earth. Did you ever think of the significance of their numbers? Science knows of about 512,500 species of animal life on this globe, and of these 400,000 are insects! Our well-beloved mammal group includes only 4,500 species. Numerically the insects own

I do not see why an album of insect photographs, like those made by Miss Dickerson, should not be as attractive as some of the other photograph albums that many amateurs are fond of filling. Pictures of butterflies, beetles, caterpillars, leaf insects, stick-insects, and other imitative forms and of the wonderful metamorphoses that insects undergo. would furnish amusement and instruction, and the making of them would provide a new occupation for amateur photographers.-Garret P.

New Quarters and Halves Not Rare.

Washington, Jan. 26.-Reports ment from numerous sources that the lars coined in 1916 have been sold at a premium by persons representing that the new coins are rare. To correct any impression that the coins are rare, officials today authorized the statement that 2,330,000 halves and 62,000 quarters of the new de-

The Lord sends the sunshine and own plowing .- Christian Herald.

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