

NEWS

of the LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

Number 1 15 January, 1971

Editorial Committee of the NEWS.....

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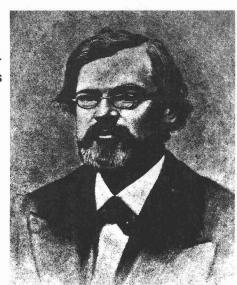
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BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES: I Townend Glover (1813 - 1883)

Although Townend Glover was the first Entomologist of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, he is known to modern lepidopterists only indirectly, from the application of his name to a handful of still-recognized species (including the well-known Platysamia gloveri Strecker and the lasiocampid genus Gloveria Packard). Except for brief obituaries and notices, only several accounts of his life have been written. Yet, during the third quarter of the nineteenth century, Glover was an important (albeit frequently unrecognized) figure in American entomology. At least one fact should endear Glover's name to students of the Heterocera: he has recently been identified as the inventor of the first known portable entomological light trap.

Glover often told his friends that he was born in no country, perhaps indicating birth at sea; but records place the event at Rio de Janeiro in 1813, where his father was engaged in trade. After the death of Townend's mother, Henry Glover sent his son to the care of relatives in England. Townend studied German painting and drawing on the Continent, and during a visit to the United States in 1836 he decided to remain. He married Sarah Byrnes of Fishkill-on-the-Hudson, New York, and temporarily settled down to the life of a country gentleman.



Townend Glover

In 1854 Glover began work in the Bureau of Agriculture, part of the U.S. Patent Office. His tasks were not entirely routine, for he was able to visit Venezuela and British Guiana on a mission to gather sugar cane plants for restocking Louisiana plantations. He conducted significant investigations of grape insects, the orange scale, and cotton pests; but a personal conflict with D. J. Browne, chief clerk of the Bureau, led to Glover's resignation in 1859.

While at the Patent Office, Glover experimented with various forms of entomological illustration, including the "Direct-transfer process" by which the scales of Lepidoptera were removed with gummed paper, a method that he discarded as unsatisfactory. After leaving his Government post, he took a chair on the faculty of the Maryland Agricultural College. There he began to engrave on copper the plates of insects which would eventually appear as his <u>magnum opus</u>, salvaging a few earlier subjects to include in the number.

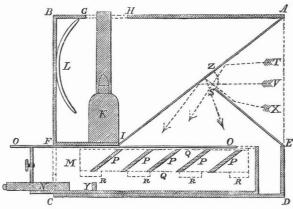
In 1863 Glover was appointed United States Entomologist in the Department of Agriculture, which had been established in the previous year. His research was extensive and varied, ranging over a number of orders of economically important insects. In 1872 the first volume of his carefully engraved plates, those of the

Townend Glover (continued)

Orthoptera, was published with accompanying text. Subsequent volumes treated the Diptera and Heteroptera, and an index to economic insects followed.

A book of plates of cotton insects was printed in 1878, depicting among other species a number of Lepidoptera. All of these volumes except the first were published in a curious format; Glover's manuscript text was transferred to the printing plates so that with the exception of their title-pages, his books appear on first glance to be hand-written. All were published in extremely small editions, and are scarce.

Glover's final book, <u>Illustrations of North American Entomology</u>, was published with incomplete text and captions in 1878. This contained the plates from his previous works, plus a large number of others. Of these additional plates, most were devoted to the Lepidoptera. Only twelve copies were printed, and ten were distributed; consequently the <u>Illustrations</u> is one of the rarest of entomological books. Glover's plates are artistically excellent and visually superb, although subsequent investigators have pointed out inaccuracies. No one, however, had attempted to illustrate such a large variety of American insects with such success. A reprint edition of the <u>Illustrations</u> is now being considered, and hopefully more entomologists will thus be introduced to a very attractive book.



A B C D is a box, having a partition I F for lamp K to rest on, behind the latter being a strong reflector L. The box A B C D is open at A E, also at H G (for lamp chimney to pass through), and at F C for the drawer M.

M is a drawer fitted above with a glass slide O running in a groove; and a Venetian blind-like apparatus P P (the laths of which are kept in position by the side strips indicated by the dotted lines Q Q), dropping loosely on to the side-rests R R. It is also fitted with a small drawer N, the latter being filled with layers of flannel for the reception of chloroform, and stopped by the block Y.

Glover's Light Trap

Glover's pioneer moth trap (the figure is a cross-section) was invented in the 1860's. The trap was in the form of a box, fitted with a kerosene lamp (K), panes of glass (AI, ES), and a sliding drawer with vanes. Insects attracted by the light eventually entered the aperture SZ and found their way into the drawer, which could be emptied at will. The design was first published in the English Entomologists's Monthly Magazine (1869), and the Glover trap soon became well known in Great Britain. Ready-made "American Moth Traps" were offered for sale, and eventually a substantial controversary arose in another periodical, The Entomologist, about the merit of Glover's device. The entrance aperture was too small, the glass panes were not placed to the greatest advantage, the drawer device was cumbersome, and insects could get out of the trap almost as easily as they could get in.

Eventually the "American Moth Trap" was simplified and developed into the familiar box light trap with overlapping glass panels that so many older entomologists remember today. A recent introductory work for young amateurs, Vinson Brown's <u>How to Follow the Adventures of Insects</u> (Boston, 1968), has resurrected this design for another generation. The story of the Glover trap, too long to be detailed here, is a significant one for lepidopterists; all of our modern light-trapping devices are descendants of (or reactions to) the Glover design and the traps it spawned.

Glover resigned from the Department of Agriculture in 1878, and died at Baltimore in 1883 after a long and painful illness. He was an eccentric and solitary man, given to extended periods of intense labor which eventually undermined his health. His friend Herman Strecker called him "the most hard-working, overworked, indefatigable entomologist in all America;" but Glover's major publications are nearly forgotten today.

Further Reading —

Dodge, C. R. 1888. The life and entomological work of the late Townend Glover. USDA Div. Entomol., Bull. 18. Washington.

Wilkinson, R. S. 1969. Townend Glover (1813-83) and the first entomological light trap. Mich. Entomol. 2: 55-62

RESULTS OF SOCIETY ELECTIONS

The Secretary has announced the results of our recent elections, and we are pleased to present them to you, as follows:

President-Elect:

Lloyd M. Martin, Prescott, Arizona

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Julian P. Donahue, Los Angeles, Calif.

Congratulations to these new officers; their creative energies and talents will certainly be felt as the Society moves toward its 25th Anniversary.

22ND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The 1971 Annual Meeting will be held in the Life Sciences Building on the campus of the University of Louisville, Kentucky, from Friday, June 18, through Sunday, June 20. The program will include symposia on Colias and on the progress of faunistic studies in the Southeastern states, as well as field trips and submitted papers. We will also try something new: door prizes of specimens donated by members for the purpose. Anyone wishing to donate material may send it to Charles V. Covell Jr., who is Chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee. Exhibits by members and friends will also be solicited.

PRELIMINARY CALL FOR PAPERS: Anyone wishing to deliver a paper, or have one read at the meeting, please send the title, length, and indication of projection needs to Dr. Lee D. Miller, Allyn Museum of Entomology, 712 Sarasota Bank Building, Sarasota, Florida 33577, U.S.A. Drs. Miller and John Downey are Co-chairmen of the Program Committee.

Further information on the Meeting will appear in the next issue of the NEWS.

FURTHER SUGGESTIONS ON PACKING INSECTS FOR MAILING.

After reading Dr. Wilkinson's piece in the December 1st <u>NEWS</u>, I felt that I might be permitted to give readers some of the benefit of more than 20 years' experience in collecting and shipping Lepidoptera for sale.

With regard to papered Lepidoptera, a common mistake is using rectangular ready-made envelopes, often of glassine or other stiff paper. Home-made triangles of very soft paper are much better. It is a mistake to suppose that stiff paper will protect the specimens. Firms dealing in entomological supplies sell soft paper triangles, but do not offer much choice of sizes. As a rule the triangles should be the smallest that will accept the specimen, though with very small butterflies such small triangles would be difficult to handle and provide little space for data. The most important point is to get the antennae folded back against or between the forewings. If the specimen is a close fit in the triangle this will be easy: it is just a matter of opening one flap of the triangle and sliding the insect in head first. Where there is surplus space in the triangle this trick can be more difficult; but it can usually be managed if the antennae are really supple when the insect is packed.

In my experience damage to pinned insects most frequently comes from specimens getting loose in the box, pin and all. I believe that real cork is the only substance that can be relied on to hold pins through the pounding that parcels receive in the mails. If cork is not available, pinned specimens can be made secure by using a very thick pinning bottom soft enough to allow the pins to be thrust right down, and having the box so shallow that the pins will strike the lid before coming free. Styrofoam is ideal for this purpose.

Specimens that have been pinned after drying will usually revolve on the pins. This commonly causes damage when insects are crowded closely into a box. If specimens are found to be loose on their pins, and they

Further Suggestions on Packing Insects (continued)

cannot be spaced out, two extra pins per insect must be used to hold them in place. With spread Lepidoptera these pins should be placed against the front of the wings.

Sending dried insects overseas by ordinary surface mail is inviting disaster. It is better to use air mail even if it is necessary to cut down the weight of the package to compensate for extra cost. I have found that parcels of up to 25 medium-sized papered butterflies, packed to weigh only 8 ozs., always arrive in good shape.

Check the comparative postal costs in your country. At present, parcels mailed in Canada for U.S.A. or England, up to 1½ lbs., go more cheaply as first class mail than by parcel post. Under such circumstances it is folly to use parcel post for small packages, or to add extra packing only to send by a slower and more risky method.

Richard Guppy
 Thetis Island, British Columbia, Canada

NEWS AND NOTES

The NEWS will not be sent to institutional subscribers as announced in the December issue. I have been advised that we should await a check on the constitutionality and possible Executive Board action before doing so.

OBITUARY: Word has been received of the death several months ago of the renowned Brazilian lepidopterist, Remualdo F. D'Almeida.

CORRECTIONS of December, 1970, NEWS: page 6: The name "John Abbott" should read "John Abbot," page 7: "MASAKI, Nakayama" should read "NAKAYAMA, Masaki."

DUES: If you have not paid your 1971 dues, please do so right away. In so doing, don't forget considering an extra donation toward the 25th Anniversary Commemorative Publication. Society dues and contributions are tax deductible.

BOOK NOTICES: Orders are solicited for the following two publications of the Toronto Entomologists' Association:

Occasional Publ. No. 2: (a) Reprint of Brodie's original descriptions of "Samia nokomis" and "S. winonah;" (b) 1970 Seasonal Summary for Ontario.

Occasional Publ. No. 3: Checklist of Ontario Lepidoptera, with faunal map of Ontario.

Publication of the former is expected to be spring, 1971; that of the latter, early fall, 1971. Pre-publication subscription prices are \$1.50 for the former and \$3.50 for the latter. Send orders to: Ron Michaels, 53 Duncan Drive, Georgetown, Ontario, CANADA.

THE BUTTERFLIES OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO by Malcolm Barcant, with 24 plates, is now available from Wm. Collins Sons & Co. Ltd., 14 St. James Place, London SW 1, England (publishers), or Peter Lloyd-Taylor, Wm. Collins Sons & Co., Ltd, 215 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10003, U.S.A. The author is our only member from Trinidad, W.I.

RESEARCH REQUESTS:

LIBYTHEIDAE STUDY: Records and/or specimens needed right away for a zoogeographic study of the family. Especially needed are data on <u>Libythea labdaca</u>, <u>ancoata</u>, <u>narina</u>, <u>motya</u>, <u>terena</u>, <u>fulvescens</u>, <u>geoffroyi</u>, and <u>collenettei</u>. Oakley Shields, Dept. of Entomology, Univ. of California, Davis, CALIF. 95616, U.S.A.

Research Requests (continued)

Specimens in series of any <u>Boloria</u> species from any North American locality needed for numerical analysis of geographic variation. Will purchase. John Shepard, Div. of Entomology, 201 Wellman Hall, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CALIF. 94720, U.S.A.

KENTUCKY FAUNAL STUDY. Reliable records of moths and butterflies collected in Kentucky desired for inclusion in Lepidoptera of Kentucky fauna now in preparation. Contributors will be gratefully acknowledged. Charles V. Covell, Jr., Dept. of Biology, Univ. of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 40208, U.S.A.

Specimens or information concerning <u>mites</u> found on or associated with Lepidoptera wanted for comprehensive summary, now in preparation. Asher E. Treat, 51 Colonial Parkway, Dumont, N.J. 07628, U.S.A.

TAXONOMIST NEEDED: Specialist, or person very familiar with the genus Morpho having a good source of reference is needed to name several undetermined specimens of Morpho in my collection. For more information write: Alan Wilkening, 500 Tysens Lane, Staten Island, N.Y. 10306, U.S.A.

NOTICES

Members of the Lepidopterists' Society may use this section free of charge to advertise their needs and offerings in Lepidoptera. The Editor reserves the right to alter or reject unsuitable notices. We cannot guarantee any notices, but all are expected to be made in good faith. Notices are to be sent to the Editor at least two weeks before expected publication of any given issue of the NEWS. Please check spelling of scientific names used, and avoid long lists of species.

- EXCHANGE: Limited supply of <u>Boloria napaea halli</u> offered in exchange for other rare N. American Rhopalocera. Patrick J. Conway, 6710 N. Sheridan Road, Apt. 201, Chicago, ILL. 60626, U.S.A.
- EXCHANGE: Butterflies from the Yukon region (<u>Parnassius eversmanni thor</u>, <u>Papilio machaon</u>, <u>Colias nastes</u>, <u>C. hecla, Erebia disa, E. rossii, E. youngi, E. fasciata, Boloria improba, <u>Plebjus obtilete</u>, and others) offered for butterflies of equal rarity and condition. Raymond J. Jae, 1286 S. Umatilla St., Denver, COLO. 80223, U.S.A.</u>
- EXCHANGE: Livestock (such as <u>C. regalis</u> and <u>H. columbia</u>) offered for other Saturniidae, Sphingidae, Ceratocampidae and butterflies. Especially wanted are <u>Hyalophora nokomis</u>, <u>H. kasloensis</u>, and H. euryalis from Pacific N.W. James Tuttle, 227 Theadore, Monroe, MICH. 48161, U.S.A.
- EXCHANGE: Offering butterflies from Japan, Formosa, Mexico, and Peru for <u>Parnassius clodius</u>, <u>P. smintheus</u>, and Speyeria diana. Yoshimi Kohayakawa, 521 S. Fredrick Ave., Gaithersburg, MD. 20760, U.S.A.
- EXCHANGE OR SALE: Ova of Attacus atlas, Actias selene, and A. sinesis \$2 per doz. or \$5 for four doz. Send for free list of American and exotic Saturniidae. Please send want list (no money) if ordering. Pupae and ova of American and exotic Saturniidae, Sphingidae, and Ceratocampidae wanted. Also want breeding notes on any of above in exchange for my booklet on same printed at my own expense as a free service to beginning breeders. Thomas R. Tewksbury, 69 Riverside Ave., Massapequa, N.Y. 11758, U.S.A.
- EXCHANGE OR SALE: Ten-vol. New Nature Library (Doubleday, Page & Co., 1923) including Holland's Butterfly Book and Moth Book, and L. O. Howard's Insects \$125; or will exchange for S. H. Scudder's The Butterflies of Eastern U.S. & Canada (3 vols., 1889). Albert S. Pinkus, North Ridge Rd., Mohegan Lake, N.Y. 10547, U.S.A.

NOTICES (continued)

FOR SALE: Rare offer — the complete papers of Ch. Boursin on Noctuidae, subfamily Trifinae (180 papers, 1925 - 1970), including descriptions of about 500 new species and several new genera, illustrated with 300 plates of imagoes and genitalia; about 2,000 pp. \$140. F. Dujardin, 25 rue Guiglia, 06 - Nice, FRANCE.

FOR SALE: Large quantity of Formosan Lepidoptera in papers, as well as living pupae of <u>Attacus atlas</u> (over-wintering material). Mrs. Chang Pi-Tzu, P.O. Box 873, Taipei, Taiwan (FORMOSA).

FOR SALE: Large selection of worldwide Lepidoptera and beetles in papers. High quality, with data, at reasonable prices. Send \$1 for 56-page catalog. Wayne Klopp, 1479 W. Flagler St., Miami, FLORIDA 33135, U.S.A.

FOR SALE: Butterflies from Pacific islands. I specialize in breeding Rhopalocera, and will undertake collecting expeditions this April and May to Louisiades, Woodlark, Marshal Bennets, and Trobriand Islands, Papua. Harry Borch, P.O. Box 444, Rabaul, New Britain, TERR. OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

FOR SALE: Color slides of moths, butterflies and other insects. Extensive coverage of all phases of Monarch and many phases of Black Swallowtail life cycles. Slides of over a dozen silk moth species and two dozen miscellaneous insects. Send \$.50 for sample slide and detailed list. Butterfly Magic, 1817 Wesley Ave., Janesville, WISC. 53545, U.S.A.

WANTED: Live cocoons or 1971 ova of <u>Citheronia regalis</u>, <u>Brameha wallichi</u>, and <u>Argema mittrei</u>, in numbers of 6 - 12 cocoons or 1 - 3 doz. ova. Butterfly Magic, 1817 Wesley Ave., Janesville, WISC. 53545, U.S.A.

WANTED: Living pupae of <u>H. gloveri</u>. Will buy, or can exchange for papered specimens. Jeffrey C. Gilbert, 116 August Court, York, PA. 17404, U.S.A.

WANTED: Will pay any reasonable price for one perfect pair of the following: <u>Ornithoptera priamus</u> tenerus, <u>P. boisduvali</u>, <u>p. caelestis</u>, <u>p. pronomus</u>, <u>p. hecuba</u>, and <u>p. richmondia</u>. Alan Wilkening, 500 Tysens Lane, Staten Island, N.Y. 10306, U.S.A.

WANTED: Information on specific collecting localities for Colorado and Wyoming butterflies during June for two collectors planning a vacation. Please respond promptly. Ray Castilonia, 24675 Shepardson, Loma Linda, CALIF. 92354, U.S.A.

WANTED: The following numbers of the periodical <u>Lepidoptera</u>: 1919, vol. 3, no. 12 and index; 1920, vol. 4, no. 2 and index. Cyril F. dos Passos, Washington Corners, Mendham, N.J. 07945, U.S.A.

NEW MEMBERS

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Box 444, Rabaul, New Britain, TERR. OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.
LEPID., esp. rearing Ornithoptera. Sell.

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MURPHY, Raymond J. c/o SAE/TH, Box 7171, Kampala, UGANDA, EAST AFRICA.

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Papilio ecology. Coll. Ex. Buy.

516 Linden Ave., Teaneck, N. J. 07666, U.S.A. LEPID., Coll. Ex.

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Coll. Ex.

Biology Dept., Montclair State College, Upper Montclair, N. J. 07043,

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Ex. Correspondence welcome.

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U.S.A. LEPID. esp. RHOP., Coll. Ex.

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Div. 2653, Sandia Corp., Albuquerque, N.M. 87115, U.S.A.

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Box 87, Rt. 6, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514, U.S.A.

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Memoirs of the Lepidopterists' Society, Number 1 (Feb. 1964) A SYNONYMIC LIST OF THE NEARCTIC RHOPALOCERA by Cyril F. dos Passos

Price: Society members — \$4.50, others: \$6.00 postpaid (hard-cover binding \$1.50 additional) Order from Society Treasurer

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY . . .

Membership in The Lepidopterists' Society is open to all persons interested in any aspect of Lepidopterology. Prospective members should send the Treasurer the full dues for the current year (\$10.00 U.S.A.) together with full address and special Lepidopterological interests. Remittances in dollars (U.S.A.) should be made payable to The Lepidopterists' Society. Individual members will receive the JOURNAL (published quarterly) and the NEWS (Published eight times a year.) Institutional memberships will receive only the Journal. A biennial membership list will also be received. Back issues of the Journal may be obtained from the Treasurer.

Information on membership in the Society may be obtained from the Treasurer, Stanley S. Nicolay, 1500 Wakefield Drive, Virginia Beach, Va., 23455 U.S.A. Changes of address should be sent to the Treasurer. Please DO NOT send requests for membership or change of address to the Editors of the NEWS or JOURNAL.

Other information about the Society may be obtained from the Secretary, Dr. John C. Downey, Department of Biology, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa, 50613, U.S.A.

Manuscripts for publication in the JOURNAL should be sent to the Editor of the JOURNAL, Dr. D. F. Hardwick, K. W. Neatby Bldg., Central Experimental Farm, Carling Ave., Ottawa, Ont., Canada.

Items for inclusion in the NEWS should be sent to the Editor fo the NEWS, Dr. Charles V. Covell, Jr., Department of Biology, University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky., 40208, U.S.A.

from: THE LEPIDOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

Department of Biology University of Northern Iowa. Cedar Falls, Iowa, 50613, U.S.A.

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