

## SHORT ADDRESS

## THE MEMBERS

OF

## THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY,

ON NOMINATING

THE VICE-PRESIDENTS FOR 1835.

By F. W. HOPE, PRESIDENT.

THE duty devolves on me, Gentlemen, of nominating your Vice-Presidents for the present year, and scarcely should I consult the interests of this Society, did I not without hesitation name our best friend and supporter John George CHILDREN, Esq. To this gentleman's cordial cooperation we are highly indebted for the formation of the Entomological Society, to his uncompromising firmness we owe our stability, to his liberal views and unobtrusive generosity much of our prosperity. We have had experience of his ability as a Chairman; we have witnessed that courteousness and amenity of manners, which, whilst it disarmed opposition, elicited respect and admiration. His rich and extensive collection of Insects has ever been, and continues to be, open to the view of the student. His unrivalled Entomological Library is always easy of access, and even the most costly and expensive works have been intrusted to others, with a confidence as rare as it is considerate and exalted. Gentlemen, it only now remains for me to express a wish, -I am sure the fervent

and united wish of the Members of this Society,—that "long, very long" may we see Mr. Children amongst us, and long may we derive the benefit of his science, his counsel, and support.

The second person whom I proceed to nominate, and whom I am proud to call my friend, is Lieutenant-Colonel Sykes. Connected as he is with the leading Societies of this metropolis, and acting in the Councils of most of them, can there be a more efficient Officer for a new and rising institution like our own? Of all who wield the sword, few can more ably use the pen. The statistical amateur has much to expect from him; and I could wish that this Society had equal claims to his time and attention. Possessor of a rich collection of Crustacea, Arachnida, and Insecta, and a valuable Journal of Facts relative to the economy and habits of the Animals of Western India, may we not expect, as he has already published accounts of the Vertebrata in another journal, that he will occasionally enrich our Transactions with documents from the same source respecting the Invertebrata? Gentlemen, I feel sure that in nominating Colonel Sykes you will acquit me of the charge of partiality. You are well aware of the liberality of his views, and of his able assistance relating to our executive. No one can have the interests of this Society more at heart than he has; and situated as he will be about the helm, we must assuredly profit by his experience.

The third person whom I have the honour to nominate is James Francis Stephens, Esq., a name too intimately connected with Entomological Science to need panegyric from this Chair. His Catalogue will remain a perpetual memorial of what individual exertions can achieve. His illustrations of British Entomology speak for themselves. He has undertaken the Herculean task of the description of 12,000 species of indigenous Insects; and did we not know his energy and perseverance, we might fear the labour was more than one individual could accomplish. To the furtherance of this ob-

ject his time, fortune, health, and even the privacy of domestic life have been sacrificed. While expressing a wish that no impediment may arrest the progress of his Work, let us indulge the hope that a healthy life may be granted him long to outlive a publication which Science will gratefully immortalize.

The last person whom I have the honour to nominate is your Treasurer, Mr. Yarrell, a zoological writer not less celebrated abroad than esteemed at home. Our English Fauna is almost annually indebted to him for valuable additions. In his forthcoming work, the Fishes of Great Britain, the Public has much to expect; nor will that expectation be disappointed, if we form a judgement from his well known notice on the Shad and White Bait. May we hope that this Society (when leisure is allowed him) will derive the benefit of his observations on Crustacea, many years a favourite object of his studies? In conclusion it must be added, that we owe Mr. Yarrell a debt of gratitude for many kind offices, unconnected with his official duties. Gentlemen, in nominating him your Vice-President I feel assured I promote the interests of the Society, and, I flatter myself, fulfil your expectations.

F. W. H.

Feb. 2nd, 1835.



Printed by RICHARD TAYLOR, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London.

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