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It must be added that, butterflies being often attracted to birds' excreta, this spider (*Ornithoscatoides decipiens*) probably gains the double advantage of an Alluring and a Procryptic Colouring.

On the extremely interesting behaviour of crabs in « associating sea-anemones and ascidians with themselves », Dr. McATEE remarks : — « Both of these classes of animals have their enemies which probably would engulf crab and all in cases where the animals were together (5 : p. 22).

The improbability of this conclusion is proved by old observations and experiments which Dr. McATEE ignores. Thus Professor Walter GARSTANG, referring to his Plymouth experience with two species of hermit crab bearing sea-anemones on their borrowed shells, recorded in 1890, that when these Crustacea are « young and small they are obliged to live in shells without anemones », and that he « has often found them, shells and all, in the stomachs of gurnards and other fish. He has never found the larger crabs with shells suited for Actinians in the stomachs of fish » (12 : p. 203). In the same year I tested (33) one of these sea-anemones (*Sagartia*) borne by the common *Pagurus bernhardus* « by touching it with the tip of my tongue, and at once experienced a sharp smart which endured for many hours. » Pieces of the *Sagartia* thrown into one of the tanks were at first taken by a few fishes in mistake for the accustomed bits of meat, « but no sooner had one been received into the mouth, than it was shot out again with much force, and the fish shook its head violently from side to side, apparently feeling the same smart which I had experienced myself. After these first trials not one of the fish would touch the pieces. » A smaller crab, *P. cuanensis*, enclosed in an orange-red sponge (*Suberites*) was, when extracted, greedily devoured, although pieces of the sponge were even more quickly recognised and rejected than those of the sea-anemone.

It is a satisfaction to be able to bring this paper to an end by producing evidence that I am in entire agreement with one of Dr. McATEE's opinions, viz. that « the most potent protective adaptations possible do not necessarily protect » (5 : p. 75). I venture, therefore, to quote words spoken at a meeting of the Entomological Society of London on 7 May, 1913, when Mr. J. C. F. FRYER (34) brought forward extremely interesting and conclusive evidence that butterflies belonging to the most distasteful groups were

(33) *Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond.*, 1922, p. 897.

(34) « Wings of Danaïde and Euploeine butterflies killed by birds in Ceylon. » *Proc.*, 1913, pp. XI, XII.





