

tion and brings in "telaesthesia," which he defines as "power of vision passing the limits of time and space." One can readily see what a very useful power this would be, a power more wonderful than all the gifts of prophecy and fairy wands, but one must be allowed to express a slight doubt as to its existence.

If birds are possessed of this miraculous power it is rather hard to account for the fact of their becoming lost in a fog when migrating. A fog certainly might cause them to lose direction if they depended on the sense of sight, but it should have no influence on a purely mental attribute, such as "telaesthesia" is assumed to be.

In conclusion I would suggest that if the guiding of migration by the sense of sight is to be regarded as one of "the fairy-tales of science" that Mr. Mousley's theory may be regarded as "fairy-talaesthesia."

A BROOKER KLUGH.

A DOPED BUTTERFLY?—Early in September last year in woods on the shore of Lake Missanog, Frontenac County, Ontario, I came across a patch of very large specimens of the poisonous Fly Agaric, *Amanita muscaria*. On the pileus of one of the specimens was a Camberwell Beauty, *Eu Vanessa antiopa*. It did not take flight when I touched it but merely wobbled weakly from side to side. I picked it up and let it go in the air, but it fell to the ground with closed wings. I then placed it on the trunk of a tree, to which it clung for a few minutes, and then fluttered back to the same fungus, where I left it.

It would seem as if this butterfly had been poisoned by muscarine, the extremely toxic alkaloid found in *Amanita muscaria*, though no absolute conclusion on this point can be drawn from this single instance. Its behaviour in returning to its poisonous repast is interesting, but here again no definite conclusions can be drawn from a single instance. I should be glad to hear of any other observations on the relations of insects to this fungus.

A. BROOKER KLUGH.

MORCHELLA BISPORA IN CANADA. Mr. W. S. Odell's note in a recent number of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*, apparently constitutes the first published record of the finding of *M. bispora*. The Division of Botany, Central Experimental Farm, some years ago (1912) studied some Morels collected by Mr. J. W. Eastham, B.Sc., near Billings Bridge; among them Mr. Eastham showed me *Morchella bispora*, and I well remember the charac-

teristic ascus containing the two large hyaline spores. There is no doubt in my mind that the species then examined is the same as that recorded by Mr. Odell.

H. T. GUSSOW.

MORCHELLA BISPORA IN CANADA.—I was interested in the article "A Rare Fungus New to Canada," by Mr. W. S. Odell in the January number of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* in which he records *Morchella bispora* from Chelsea, Quebec, and from the vicinity of Ottawa, but I beg to point out that his statement that "There is no record of its having been previously found in Canada," requires modification. In the Ontario Natural Science Bulletin, No. 6, 1910, I first recorded this species from Canada and I reproduce below the original note:—

"*Morchella bispora* is a very common fungus on the Bruce Peninsula, Ontario. It grows abundantly in damp woods, appearing in May, and lasting till early in June. Some of the sporophores attain a very large size. As an edible species it ranks high, as it is tender and of excellent flavour. Dr. Dearness informs me that this species has not been previously recorded from Canada."

The fact that records of the occurrence of species of plants and animals in Canada can be easily overlooked shows the need of some central authority for each group. Such an authority should not be a worker in the group but should be willing to receive and keep on file all records of the distribution of species in his group. I would suggest that the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club try and make such arrangements for as many groups as possible, and publish the names of the authorities, so that anyone wishing information on the distribution of species in a certain group can appeal to the proper authority. In this connection I should be extremely glad to receive records of all species of Cyanophyceae (Blue-green Algae), Chlorophyceae (Green Algae) and fresh-water Protozoa of Canada.

A. BROOKER KLUGH.

RUSTY BLACKBIRDS WINTERING IN ALBERTA.—A flock of eleven Rusty Blackbirds have remained in Camrose, Alberta, throughout the past winter. The winter of 1919 and 1920 has been as severe, and perhaps longer than any since the settlement of this portion of the west. The ground was frozen several inches deep by October 10th, and on the 18th of that month eight inches of snow covered the ground. On November 6th the thermometer registered 24 below zero, on which day a flock of Evening Grosbeaks began their residence in Cam-



Klugh, A. B. 1920. "Morchella Bispora in Canada." *The Canadian field-naturalist* 34(6), 119–119. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.337987>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17534>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.337987>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/337987>

Holding Institution

MBLWHOI Library

Sponsored by

MBLWHOI Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.