neighbourhood of the British Museum, he thought the authorities of that estab-
ishment ought to take every precaution to prevent it from obtaining an entrance therein,
as it appeared to be impossible to exterminate them when they once obtained a
lodgment, the nests apparently being situated in the foundations of the houses.

Mr. Baly exhibited a fine new Hispa, sent from Batchian by Mr. Wallace, and
read the following description of it:—

   *Oxycephela imperialis.*
   
   "Elongata, subdepressa, pallide fulva, nitida; antennis (basi excepto) piceis;
thorace transverso-quadrato, basi ad apicem paullo ampliato, crebre punctato;
elytris postice attenuatis, metallico-cyaneis, apice externo rufis, fascia lata
obliqua, vix ante medium posita, extrorsum abbreviata, pallide fulva.
Long. 7 lin.
   "Hab. Batchian."

Mr. Stainton exhibited a specimen of Margarodes unionalis, a species new to
Britain, taken by Mr. King, at Torquay.

Mr. Fereday exhibited a beautiful series of Sphinx Convulvuli, captured this
season; and a variety of Colias Edusa, having the central spot on the anterior wings
much suffused on the under side.

Dr. Knaggs brought for distribution amongst the members a number of specimens
of Amara plebeia, found in his own field at Kentish Town.

Mr. Tegetmeier exhibited specimens of Apis ligustica, of which he had lately
received living examples of the queen and workers from the Continent, where it is
considered a more profitable species to the owner than the common honey bee; he
hoped, during the next season, to test the correctness of this opinion.

Mr. Stainton read a paper "On the Geographical Distribution of British Butter-
flies."

Some conversation ensued on the probability that the few examples of Vanessa
Antiope, Argyris Lathonia, &c., which are found in this country, are specimens bred
on the Continent, and flown across the channel during favourable weather. Mr. Water-
house observed that whilst crossing from Liverpool to Dublin in a steamer, a few years
ago, on a remarkably calm day, when the sea was as smooth as glass, he noticed the
surface of the water was literally covered with butterflies and other insects, which
seemed to keep pace with the steamer; thousands of them must have crossed the
channel that day: he was convinced that the powers of flight possessed by insects
could hardly be over-estimated.

The Secretary read a paper by Mr. Wallace, intituled "Notes on the Habits of
Scolytidae and Bactrichidae," in which the author expressed his opinion (founded on
extensive observations of the habits of those insects in the islands of the Eastern
Archipelago) that they only attack trees which are already in a diseased or dying
state.