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CHARLES VALENTINE RILEY.

The career of this distinguished natural-
ist, so suddenly closed while in good health,
and with apparently many years of usefulness
before him, was a remarkable one. Biologist, artist, editor and public official,
the story of his struggles and successes,
tinged as it is with romance, is one full of
interest. Beginning life in America as a
poor lad on an Illinois farm, he rose by his
own exertions to distinction, and to become
one of our most useful citizens in science, both
pure and applied. His nature was a many-
sided one, and his success in life was due to
sheer will-power, unusual executive force,
critical judgment, untiring industry, skill
with pencil and pen, and a laudable ambition,
united with an intense love of nature and of
science for its own sake. This rare combina-
tion of varied qualities, of which he made
the most, rendered him during the thirty
years of his active life widely known as a
public official, as a scientific investigator,
while of economic entomologists he was
facile princeps.

Charles Valentine Riley was born at
Chelsea, London, September 18, 1843. His
boyhood was spent at Walton-on-Thames,
where he made the acquaintance of the late
W. C. Hewitson, author of a work on but-
terflies, which undoubtedly developed his
love for insects. At the age of 11 he went
to school for three years at Dieppe, after-
wards studying at Bonn-on-the-Rhine. At