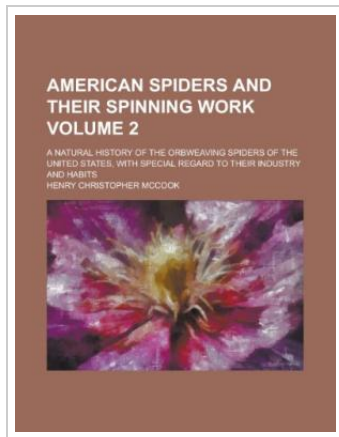



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American Spiders and Their Spinning Work; A Natural History of the Orbweaving Spiders of the United States, with Special Regard to Their Industry and Habits Volume 2

By Henry Christopher McCook

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Excerpt. . another cause. The spiders, previous to flight or vaulting, attached themselves to the post in the manner common to most of their order. The apex of the abdomen was thrust down upon the surface, and the liquid silk at the same time exuded from the spinnerets was thus caused to adhere thereto. As the creature moved away the thread was run out into line, and gave the spider a firm attachment. It is a question whether this anchorage is always made previous to flight, and whether the thread is cut immediately before the ascent. The observations made all pointed to an affirmative answer, but the matter was not positively settled. The attempt was made to follow some of the aeronauts beyond the point of ascent. The difficulty in getting the minute objects in position relative to the sun favorable for such observation, the...



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