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Linnell, John (1821 – 1906)

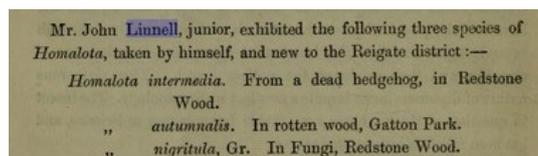
Posted on April 9, 2012 by Chris

John Linnell was born into the artistic Linnell ‘dynasty’ – his father was also named John Linnell (1792-1882), a distinguished artist (especially portraiture). His mother was Mary Palmer. John was born 25th November, 1821 at Cirencester Place (St. Marlebone).

For much of his life, he and his sisters (Elizabeth and Sarah) lived at [Redstone](#) Wood, Reigate – an estate and mansion that was created by his father. “Next door” in Redstone Wood South (later Redstone Copse) was his brother James (and his family). James was a noted landscape painter. John in the 1901 census return was described as *an artist and master of drawing*.

John was an enthusiastic collector of insects (especially beetles – Coleoptera) and flowers.

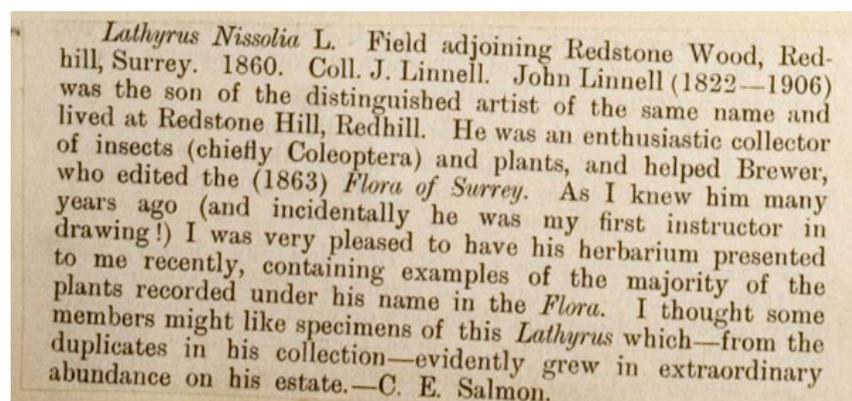
Paper : [List of Coleoptera: Staphylinidæ](#). List of the species of the family Staphylinidæ that have been taken in the Reigate district, and a record of their capture, Part 3. John Linnell, Holmesdale Natural History Club.



Mr. John Linnell, junior, exhibited the following three species of *Homalota*, taken by himself, and new to the Reigate district :--
Homalota intermedia. From a dead hedgehog, in Redstone Wood.
,, *autumnalis*. In rotten wood, Gatton Park.
,, *nigritula*, Gr. In Fungi, Redstone Wood.

He was a member of the [Holmesdale Natural History Club](#), which was based in Reigate – holding various offices (such as curator). He was involved in Brewer’s *Flora of Surrey*. His herbarium passed to [C E Salmon](#).

Some of his collections / herbarium sheets may be seen at [H@H](#).



Lathyrus Nissolia L. Field adjoining Redstone Wood, Redhill, Surrey. 1860. Coll. J. Linnell. John Linnell (1822—1906) was the son of the distinguished artist of the same name and lived at Redstone Hill, Redhill. He was an enthusiastic collector of insects (chiefly Coleoptera) and plants, and helped Brewer, who edited the (1863) *Flora of Surrey*. As I knew him many years ago (and incidentally he was my first instructor in drawing!) I was very pleased to have his herbarium presented to me recently, containing examples of the majority of the plants recorded under his name in the *Flora*. I thought some members might like specimens of this *Lathyrus* which—from the duplicates in his collection—evidently grew in extraordinary abundance on his estate.—C. E. Salmon.

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