

CORRESPONDENCE.

ENTOMOLOGICAL NOTES FROM THE COUNTY OF PETERBORO, ONT.

DEAR SIR,—

As no work, or but very little, can be carried on at this season out of doors, in aid of the objects you have in view in the publication of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, I forward a few extracts from my note book of last year.

April 5th, 1875, I captured a fully developed specimen of that very troublesome butterfly, *Pieris rapæ*, in my garden, the thermometer having been only 1° above the freezing point on the preceding night, and not having risen beyond 38° during the entire day.

The *Pieris* was not nearly so destructive to my plants in 1875 as it was in the previous year, inasmuch as in the fall of that year I had discovered and destroyed some hundreds of chrysalids that had attached themselves to the inside of the doors and walls of my tool-houses, and beneath my verandah-roof. In 1874 my cauliflowers and cabbages, during my frequent absence from home, were well nigh eaten up by this garden pest, and such as were not actually devoured were rendered unfit for use by the quantity of excrement deposited between the leaves of the plants. A sprinkling of buckwheat flour was suggested as a remedy, but I tried it without effect.

May 16. The mischievous flying and hopping *Haltica striolata* was swarming in my melon-frames. I dusted the plants with soot, which appeared to disagree with their constitution and prevented their effecting any material damage. I have sometimes tried sprinkling the plants with tobacco water, which forces them to retire to the outside of the frame, where they can readily be destroyed before they recover from the effects of the tobacco.

May 24. The first Potato Beetle, *Doryphora decem-lineata*, made its appearance—not on my potato plants, for, since the advent of that interesting “bug,” I have preferred purchasing to growing potatoes—but on my egg-plants and tomatoes, both of which plants belong (or rather belonged, for the tomato is now *Lycopersicum esculentum*) to the *Solanums*, as does the potato. I have generally found that where potatoes and egg-plants are grown in the same garden, the Colorado beetles attack the

latter with even greater voracity than they do the former. My remedy, as regards the egg-plants, is hand-picking two or three times a day, a remedy where, from the size of the garden, it can be adopted, the most efficacious that can be devised.

June 5. The *Nematus ventricosus* appeared upon the currant bushes. A watering with hellebore and water proved, as usual, an unfailling specific.

June 16. I captured an *Elater oculatus*.

June 19. *Sesia diffinis*.

June 24. *Saturnia io*, ♂, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in expanse.

July 4. The Fireflies, *Lampyris corusca*, first appeared, enhancing, by their glittering, glancing evolutions, the charms of the evening hours.

July 10. I captured a *Saperda tridentata*.

August 17. *Buprestis Virginica*.

August 19. Camping out with a party on one of the granitic islands of our most beautiful and romantic Stony Lake. Saw a large number of those exquisite little beetles, the *Chrysochus auratus*.

August 20. Red Admiral butterfly, *Vanessa atalanta* (Westwood).

August 26. *Arge* tiger-moth.

August 28. *Silpha vespillo* (Samouelle).

August 30. *Buprestis dentipes*.

September 5. I captured in my garden a good specimen of that very lovely moth, *Deiopeia bella*.

September 20. Found a common cricket, *Acheta abbreviata*, with a hair snake, *Gordius*, attached to it. Whenever the unhappy victim moved the snake appeared to lash itself into a perfect fury, twisting itself around the cricket in all directions.

October 20. I found a chrysalis of the Five-spotted Sphinx, *Sphinx quinquemaculatas*, which I now have by me still alive.

On the same day, the thermometer on the preceding night having run down to 32°, I captured a brilliant specimen of *Vanessa progne*.

October 21. Dug up in my garden a quantity of grasshoppers' eggs enclosed in a pellicle of dried varnish.

VINCENT CLEMENTI, B. A.

Peterboro, January 28th, 1876.