

ago by the prompt manner in which he responded to a number of enquiries, and his readiness in undertaking the work of naming a large number of species of Coleoptera. Dr. Leconte ever manifested a warm interest in the Entomological Society of Ontario, and in the earlier volumes of our Journal are many valuable articles from his pen. His Classification of the Coleoptera of North America, published by the Smithsonian Institute in 1861, was a great boon to those interested in the study of American beetles, and greatly stimulated progress in this department, while the many excellent monographs he has written of special families have been invaluable to students.

During the period of the war his scientific labors were interrupted by pressing official duties. He was first appointed Surgeon of Volunteers, and shortly afterwards Medical Inspector, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, which position he occupied for some years. Subsequently he spent three years in Europe, where he visited all the public museums and as many private ones as were accessible to him, which enabled him, with the aid of a wonderful memory, to settle many doubtful points in reference to species in his own cabinet. On his return he resumed his entomological work, which was carried on with but slight interruption until within a week or two of his death. His labors on the Rhyncophora resulted in the publication of a volume of 455 pages, entitled, "Species of Rhyncophora," in which he was assisted by Dr. Horn. This was published as a separate volume by the American Philosophical Society in 1876. Subsequently, in association with Dr. Geo. H. Horn, he prepared an entirely new work to replace his early volume on the Classification of Coleoptera of North America, in which the bulk of the families are re-arranged and a vast amount of material, which has accumulated during the past twenty years, utilized, and the whole brought into harmony with the present advanced condition of knowledge on this subject. This work, which was issued during the early part of the present year by the Smithsonian Institute, will prove a most valuable guide to students' of Coleoptera everywhere, and will, perhaps, be the most enduring monument of his life work. No man who has ever lived has done as much as Dr. Leconte to advance the study of Coleoptera in America; and it has been well said that to follow the papers he has written during his busy life would be to give a history of the progress of scientific Coleopterology in America. His death will be a very great loss to American science, and an almost irreparable one to the special department in which he labored.