

filled up with cold water, will give a sufficient quantity of the mixture to sprinkle a large number of bushes. This is most conveniently done with an ordinary clothes whisk. The powder may also be used dry; when mixed with four times its bulk of common flour, it should be puffed over the bushes after rain, when the dew is on them, or after they have been sprinkled with water. This is most conveniently done by means of the small hand-bellows, now obtainable at all chemists. With regard to the danger of using this material, I will quote from an excellent and very complete article upon this subject by Prof. W. Saunders, which appeared in our Ent. Soc'y, of Ont. Rep. for 1871-2, p. 32.

"It has been urged against hellebore that it is poisonous, and great outcries have been made against it on this account. It is quite true that hellebore is poisonous when taken internally in quantities, but if used in the manner we have indicated, no fear need be entertained of the slightest injury resulting from it. Examined immediately after a thorough sprinkling with the hellebore mixture, the quantity on any bunch of fruit will be found to be infinitesimal, and the first shower of rain would remove it all. If it be found necessary at any time to apply the mixture to bushes where the fruit is ripe and just ready to be picked, it might then be washed in water before using, which would readily remove every trace of the powder. During the past ten years many thousands of pounds of hellebore have been used in Europe and America for the purpose of destroying this worm, and we know of no case on record where injury has resulted from its use."

Another insect of the same family, and with very similar habits to the above, is the Larch Saw-fly, *Nematus Erichsonii*, the larvæ of which are now spreading rapidly over the Eastern United States and Canada. I have received enquiries concerning it from several of our members in different provinces of the Dominion, particularly from Nova Scotia and Quebec. The eggs of this species are embedded in the soft wood of the young shoots of the tamarac when growth first begins in June. The growth is stopped on the side where the eggs are deposited, and the twig becomes distorted and is eventually destroyed. This injury, however, is slight compared with the destruction of the foliage. There are at the present moment in Canada, from the Atlantic coast as far west as Ottawa, thousands of acres of tamaracs entirely stripped of their leaves. In a later number a fuller account of this injurious insect will be given.