

I feel, therefore, that while there are many important topics that could be selected as the basis of this address, I cannot possibly go astray in occupying your attention for a short time with some thoughts concerning the educational value of entomology, the training to be desired in it, and the present and possible means for the growth of this work.

It is but a short time since entomology was entirely excluded from college courses, or, if included at all, formed but a fractional part of zoölogy; and the training given had little reference to the actual work devolving upon an entomological student in the collection and study of his particular favourites.

Even at the present time, there are, so far as I know, not more than a dozen colleges in the country where entomology is given a place in the regular college curriculum, and in only about half of these does it form a required part of any regular college course. In some of these the required work consists of but a short course, devoted largely to economic subjects, and the student gets but a bare insight into the problems of systematic entomology, or the wonderful biological wealth belonging to this branch of science.

To the members of this Club it is of course unnecessary to urge the value of entomology as an educator, but I would like to call attention to it here for the purpose of emphasizing the matter and urging a greater utilization of it in educational work. While we ourselves may realize its value and give it all the rank proper, I fear we do not always insist as we might on the standing it deserves in this regard.

We do not need to depreciate the value of other scientific studies in order to uphold entomological work as one of the most suitable of all branches of science to form a part of a course in scientific training.

That it requires close application, careful attention to details, and thus exercises in fullest degree every faculty of observation, is a necessary consequence of the minuteness and complex organization of insects. It presents, therefore, every advantage offered by botany or any branch of zoology as a means of training the faculties to close observation.

It is stated of Cuvier, that being applied to by a young man who desired to become a naturalist, for advice as to the course he should pursue, he answered, "Go and study entomology."