

Last year, at our annual meeting, I took the opportunity of calling your attention to many fields of Entomological labour that are now all but unexplored in this country. May I repeat that there is ample scope for the exertions of all our members, whether they care only to form collections of specimens, or prefer to devote their labours to the unfolding of the life-histories or the study of the classification of insects? There is plenty of work remaining to be done even in the favourite orders of Lepidoptera and Coleoptera, to say nothing of the others that are not so generally studied or collected. It would be a valuable contribution to our store of knowledge were lists of the Canadian species of all orders of insects to be formed, and presented to the Society for publication; and at the same time a revision made of those published some years ago.

But not only is there scientific work of this kind to be performed, which will require generations for its complete achievement; there comes before us at the present moment an extraordinary object for accomplishment during the approaching winter—I allude to the representation of the Society by means of a collection of Canadian insects at the approaching Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. You will all, I think, agree with us in the belief that it is a matter of great importance to the Society that it should be brought in this way before the notice of the world, and that it cannot but be of some benefit to the Dominion that its Natural History, as well as its industrial resources, should be fully exhibited. The Council of the Agricultural and Arts Association have already, on our behalf, brought the matter before the Commissioners appointed by the Government, and we understand that a sum of money will be provided to aid us in the satisfactory performance of the work. To gather together a fitting collection of insects, and to prepare them for exhibition, is a task that will strain to the utmost all the resources of the Society. We have commenced the work relying upon the co-operation of you all, and now we trust that every one will help us by the loan of specimens and any other aid that can be afforded. The Society is committed to the task; let us see to it that there be no failure!

Before turning from matters immediately affecting our Society, I may mention that our periodical, THE CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, continues to be maintained with undiminished efficiency and interest, being largely supported and contributed to by our Entomological brethren of the United States; and that the last ANNUAL REPORT presented by the Society to the Legislature has been received with more than usual marks of favour by the press, scientific, agricultural and political, not only in