

coating of wood and bark." The writer's friend, Mr. K. Miyabe, of Japan, tells him that a countryman of his has invented a method of preventing its ravages. It consists in a process of lacquering. Coatings of barnacles, when numerous and near enough together so that their bases touch, form a protection, but one which it would be difficult to produce artificially. Coatings of the common Mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) have been suggested also; but much the same objection would apply to them, and the coating would be liable to be removed by accident. An annelid preys upon the *Teredo*, but not to an extent sufficient to assist man. Fresh water is one of their greatest enemies, and foul water another. A method of ridding a ship of them which has been suggested is to take her for some time into fresh water; but our ship owners would not be long in seeing objections to this. There seems to be a possibility, however, that under certain circumstances wharves might be protected by being built where fresh water streams empty, or even, in some cases, where foul water, such as comes from chemical works and the like, could be directed against them. The latter remedy, however, would be too likely to become worse than the trouble.

As an offset to all the damage done by the Ship-worms only a single benefit to man has been suggested. They certainly help to remove old wrecks, both floating and sunken, which would be a constant peril to navigation.

WORKS OF REFERENCE.

The *Teredo* and its Depredations. By Dr. E. H. Von Baumbauer [translated from Archives of Holland, Vol. I.] Popular Science Monthly, Vol. XIII., 1878, pp. 400-410, 545-558. Its more important parts are quoted in the following.

On the Ravages of the *Teredo Navalis*, and *Limnoria Lignorum*, on Piles and Submerged Timber in Nova Scotia, and the Means being Adopted in other Countries to Prevent their Attacks. By Martin Murphy. Proc. and Trans. Nova Scotian Inst. Nat. Sci., Vol. V., Part IV., 1882, pp. 357-376.