

three miles out in the Marsh and surrounded by a grove of large willow trees but I have never been able to find a cocoon on any of them.

In 1900 they were particularly abundant and I sent to Ottawa a box of the large cocoons which were spun among the grasses around the base of a small willow tree. Regarding the food of *Cecropia*, neither I, nor my friend the late Mr. Warren, who used to accompany me on my shooting trips, could find any plants in the neighborhood with berries on them, such as we knew this caterpillar to feed upon, so we came to the conclusion that the food of the caterpillars must be the leaves of the willows and other small bushes in the neighborhood.

Since the time when I sent the cocoons, the insect seems to have deserted the locality altogether, for I have hunted the same places on the St. Clair Flats, and particularly on the willow trees but have been unable to secure even a single specimen.

I was much pleased with the interesting Nature Study article by Mr. Gibson in the October number of the OTTAWA NATURALIST. Such articles do much to draw the attention of many people who want to know about them, to these beautiful and common things which make excursions into the country so charming.

JOHN MAUGHAN, Toronto.

NOTE.—The cocoons sent by Mr. Maughan were of remarkable size. They were for the most part spun among the loose grasses at the base of the willows and many of them measured 4 inches long by 2 inches wide.—J. FLETCHER.

NOTE ON THE "TEAL WEED" OF ST. CLAIR FLATS.

By JOHN MAUGHAN, Toronto.

This plant which has been identified as the Common Floating Pond-weed, *Potamogeton natans*, is to be found in all sections of Ontario, and grows in large quantities in the bays, channels and ponds in the St. Clair Flats, County of Kent, in water from six inches to six feet in depth. Among duck shooters this plant goes by the name of "Teal Weed" from the fact that the Green Winged Teal, *Anas Carolinensis*, the Blue Winged Teal, *Anas discors*, the

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Baldpate, as Marsh I and the sm Arrow-leaf *Aythya val ducks dive feed upon, Redhead a rush, by w water. T curing the breaking of the w floating portions a Ducks se do those excellent*

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