The Canadian Antomologist.

VOL. XLI.

GUELPH, NOVEMBER, 1909.

No. 11.

DR. WILLIAM BRODIE.

We regret to have to record the death of another veteran entomologist in the person of the late Dr. William Brodie, who has recently been contributing a series of articles on galls found in the neighbourhood of Toronto. On Saturday, July 31st, on his return to his home he complained of feeling unwell, and a few days later became seriously ill. On Friday, August 6th, he expired. He was born in Peterhead, Aberdeen, Scotland, and came out to Canada with his parents when a child. father settled on a farm in the County of York, about 30 miles from Toronto, and there hewed out of the forest a home for his family. From his earliest years Dr. Brodie exhibited an ardent love of nature in all its aspects, and became an omnivorous reader. This habit, formed in childhood, continued with him throughout his life. While fitting himself for the profession of dentistry he taught school for a time, and became one of the first graduates of the Dental College in Toronto. There he practised his profession very successfully for a long series of years. In 1903 he gave up his work and took charge of the Biological Department of the Provincial Museum.

While fully occupied during most of his time with the work of his profession, he most industriously devoted every spare moment to his much-loved study of natural history. He was a wonderful collector, and little or nothing, whether flora or fauna, came amiss to him in his rambles. He ranged over the whole domain of Natural History, and mastered in all branches information alike interesting and important; for with all his collecting there went great powers of observation and depth of insight. If he picked up a shell or a fossil, problems of antecedent conditions or of geological eras would be suggested; if he noticed a plant, some question of ecology or environment would present itself. Scientific theory on its philosophical side always delighted him. His favourite study was entomology. Galls and their inmates had a special fascination for him, and he made large collections of these and many other forms of insect life. His enthusiasm was infectious, and inspired many of his younger friends with a love for nature, and especially for the collection and observation of