

by promoting a rapid and vigorous growth of the plant, may render it less liable to suffer from the attacks of the insect. It has been stated that this fly, like the wheat midge, does more injury on the edges of the fields than in the middle.

“At the Joint Worm Convention, held at Warrenton, Virginia, in 1854, the following was recommended: prepare well the land intended for wheat, and sow it in the beginning of autumn, with the earliest and most thrifty and hardy varieties, and do nothing to retard the ripening of the crop, by grazing or otherwise. Use guano or some other fertilizer liberally, particularly when seeding corn-land or stubble. Burn other harbors of vegetable growth, contiguous to the crop. Sow the wheat in as large bodies, and in compact forms as practicable; and, if possible, neighbors should arrange amongst themselves to sow adjoining fields the same year. Feed all the wheat, or other straw, which may be infected, in racks or pens, or on confined spots; and in April set fire to all refuse fragments about the racks; and on or before the first of May carefully burn all the straw which has not been fed. The refuse of wheat, such as screenings, &c., should also be destroyed, as the pupa case is hard, and not easily softened by dampness or wet.”

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ARTICLE XLVI.—*Description of Fossils occurring in the  
Silurian Rocks of Canada.*

A gentleman walking upon the sea shore saw crawling on the hard sandy beach, a creature of extraordinary form, which had been left dry by the receding tide, and which was groping about as if seeking to find the waters again, its natural element. Its form was somewhat like that of a huge spider, with a number of flexible legs that bent beneath its globular body as if unable to sustain the weight. As our friend became greatly interested in its figure and movements, he seized it, fancying he had captured a prize, but soon found that he had “caught a Tartar.” The strange beast suddenly wound its legs around his arms and held him fast with prodigious force, as if bound with so many strong cords. So powerful was the grasp of these organs, and so tenaciously did they retain their hold, that before they could be removed it was necessary to cut them away with a knife.

This sea monster was a Cuttlefish, belonging to the class CEPHALOPODA, “animals, says a modern Naturalist, distinguished by most strange and paradoxical characters, and exhibiting forms so uncouth that the young Zoologist, who for the first time encounters one of these creatures, may well be startled at the anomalous appearance presented by beings so remote in their external construction from everything with which he has been familiar.