

the setting of the fruit; and in the second place, by giving a copious watering to the root of the tree during the *stoning* process—each of which proves *fatal* to the fruit.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRACTICAL ENTOMOLOGY.

BY G. J. BOWLES, PRESIDENT MONTREAL BRANCH ENTOMOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

Among the conditions necessary to ensure success in the cultivation of our various fruits, large and small, a knowledge of the habits and economy of the insects which prey upon them is of great importance. This fact has been fully recognized of late years, and the science of Entomology now occupies a prominent position in consequence. Since Kollar, some fifty years ago, wrote his book on injurious insects in Germany, many entomologists have directed their attention to the practical side of the science, and many valuable works have appeared, both in Europe and America. As regards agriculture and fruit-growing on this continent, the splendid work of Harris and the Annual Reports of the various State Entomologists in the neighboring Republic, as well as that issued by the Entomological Society of Ontario, have accumulated a mass of most interesting and valuable information with regard to both destructive and beneficial insects, which has saved millions of dollars to the people of both countries.

Insects play a most important part in the operations of nature, and affect the welfare of the human race to an incalculable extent. They live in the earth, the water and the air. Their food is principally vegetable, and many of them attack the very plants necessary to the existence of man. Though small in size, and therefore insignificant in the eyes of people generally, their numbers are so great and their increase so