

Any good effects which have been derived from "rossing," I am of the opinion are from the bark separating from the tree, and by the consequent drying up of the cambium layer, upon which the young and tender grub feeds.

The Red-Pine Gall-Weevil (*Podapion gallicola*, Riley.)

An interesting discovery was made at Aylmer, P.Q., last summer, upon the occasion of a visit paid to that locality with Mr. W. H. Harrington.

Upon the twigs of the Red Pine, we found large numbers of oval galls about 1 inch in length, in which upon examination we discovered specimens of this weevil, and I have since found that instead of being, as generally supposed, a very rare species, it is extremely abundant throughout the Pine forests in the County of Renfrew, Ont. In no instance could I find a tree of the Red-Pine which had not most of its small branchlets distorted by the swellings caused by this insect, and there was abundant evidence of its operations in former years. In the young cones of the trees at Aylmer were also found numerous examples of the small Scolytid, *Dryocetes effaber*, Mann, which had destroyed probably two-thirds of the cones. This species also bores in the terminal shoots of the White Pine.

SPRUCE.

From British Columbia I have received some larvæ which have produced the moth known as *Halistoda sobrina*, Stretch, a pretty brown moth spotted with silvery white spots on the upper wings and with under wings almost wholly white. These larvæ were sent by Rev. George W. Taylor as committing great depredations on the spruces there. In the box with these caterpillars were twigs of the Douglas fir, I found, however, that they fed with perfect indifference upon either Canada balsam fir or white spruce, and all came to maturity except two specimens, which were parasitised. This will doubtless be treated of in full in Mr. Taylor's forthcoming report as Provincial Entomologist.

From the Province of Quebec comes a woeful tale of the destruction of the spruce forests.

The Spruce Bark Beetle (*Dendroctonus rufipennis*, Kirby).

Attack.—A small cylindrical beetle, with deep-brown wing cases and head and thorax almost black, which bores a hole through the bark of a healthy spruce tree, until it reaches the sap wood, here it runs a tunnel about two or three inches in length beneath the bark, and lays at short and regular intervals eggs which hatch into white grubs. These eat out channels at right angles to the primary tunnel, so as to destroy the sap-wood beneath a large square of bark.

I have received several letters on this subject, and have also had specimens sent me which, through the courtesy of Mr. Schwarz, of Washington, have been identified as the above named beetle.

The attack appears to be most prevalent in the townships of Orford, Newport and Eaton, and Windsor, Dudswell, &c., in the Eastern Townships. It is also most probably the same insect as is complained of in New Brunswick, and which was mentioned at page 30 of my last report. The following interesting letter, giving original observations, has been received from Mr. Joseph Andrews, of Windsor Mills, P.Q.:—

"I will give you the result of my observations for the last eleven years. In the month of June, 1875, I cut a spruce tree on my farm for the purpose of making shingle, and when I came to remove the bark I found the white or pulpy part of it one mass of white maggots, about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in length. As the tree, to judge from