

extent of the disaster is fortunately in a very great measure under control, involving, of course, care and expense.

The remedies which necessity has taught on this side of the Atlantic are such as to require for their application the joint effort of the community at large, kept alive to its interests and duties by the authorities, and men of devotedness to the common welfare.

These remedies are,—

- 1st. Searching for and crushing every potato beetle wherever found.
- 2nd. Frequent visits to the potato fields, and searching for the eggs deposited on the under side of the leaves of the potato vine, and
3. Watching for the presence of the larvæ on the buds, and on the leaves of the plant in order to destroy them by means of *Paris Green*, the only substance yet discovered to be effectually operative on a large scale for the destruction of the insect in its larva state.

By these means, and by these means only, the invaded American States, and the western part of Canada, have been able to secure potato crops in a measure commensurate with the care and energy bestowed and by similar means only can the invasion be retarded and lessened in its effects.

No measure has been taken in Canada, for reasons given, to prevent the falling or creeping of individual insects on board ships loading in Dominion seaports.

There is, however, almost a certainty that the environs of Montreal will be invaded next year, and with that prospect in view, general orders may be given to public officers and employés of the ports to look for and destroy any beetles which might be observed on the wharves, on sheds, on packages of goods to be embarked, or on board ships. A general appeal might also be made to all persons having to deal with the shipping for assistance in the execution of such preventive measures.

The undersigned respectfully recommends the adoption of such precautions, beyond which he does not see that there is anything within the power of the Canadian Government to do.

The whole respectfully submitted.

Department of Agriculture, Ottawa,
6 October 1874

(signed) *L. Letellier.*

(For Drawing of the Colorado Beetle, see Lithograph opposite.)

LETTER from Dr *J. Macdonald*, of Ontario, to the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

“ Sir,

“ London, Ontario, 24 May 1877.

“ WITH reference to the instructions which have been issued to the Commissioners of Customs on the subject of the Colorado potato beetle, I beg to suggest as a superior means to enable the officers of Customs to ascertain its identity, that they be provided with these insects preserved and enclosed in small glass cases. And, with a view to aid in carrying out this suggestion, should you think favourably of it, I shall, with this communication, enclose a few specimens which I have prepared.

“ I could furnish any number of such preparations. The country around this town is swarming with the beetle in question.

I am, &c.

(signed) *J. Macdonald, M.D.,*
Drawer B 35, Post Office, London,
Ontario, Canada.

“ To the Secretary of State,
Home Department.”

“ P.S.— It might be productive of good results were preparations, such as those I have sent, distributed to landlords, holders of land, and to all parties having a direct interest in preventing the Colorado beetle from establishing itself in the United Kingdom. So doing would no doubt facilitate its detection, should it unfortunately be introduced, and, as a matter of course, its prompt destruction. It is a well known fact that this insect increases with extreme rapidity.

“ *J. M.*”