

to be the cater-
n large numbers
in fields of peas,
as a serious pest,
anticipate that we
caterpillars sent
parasitised. One
mens of *Ophion*
vae were reared
to these cater-
rease largely in
sitic insects. It
hand that many
e belong to dif-
mon flies. The
which she inserts
species *Thalassa*
ushes it into the
side of the skin
external feeders
the juices, some,
hing, lie inside
n its blood, but
out and pupate
Of the Diptera
y resemble our
the caterpillar,
ts way through
to the above
ppear in large
l service in this
this beneficial

tional severity
generally incor-
ghbourhood of
in the season
een plant of a
were useless.
arsenic, as sug-
he dead bodies
s. Mechanical
y to deal with
had been cut
stroyed. Hay
e first perfect
nd *M. atlantis*
about the 20th
ry to the crop,
have perished.
round thickly,
at the roots,
from evapora-
at is left on
e sun and air
et seasons, of
sively hot and

dry in this section, and what grass was left on the fields after the hay was cut could not possibly have supported the large numbers of locusts which afterwards devastated our crops. By waiting until 1st July they had reached the final stage in which they can fly, and were enabled to migrate from field to field, which they could not possibly have done in their earlier stages by hopping, for it must be remembered that their wings do not grow gradually until they reach their full size, but appear suddenly after the last moult. Locusts pass through seven stages—the egg, two larval stages, three pupal stages and the perfect insect. In the larval stages there is no appearance of wings; after the second moult, however, small wing pads appear; these increase gradually during the two succeeding moults, but when the pupal life is completed and just before it moults the last time and becomes perfect the wing pads are only about a quarter of an inch long. When the last moult takes place, however, and this only takes a few moments when the time comes, from these short wing pads are unfolded copious gauzy wings over an inch in length. In a few hours these harden and are ready to transport their bearers from place to place upon their mission of destruction.

An attack upon the hay crop, which is receiving the careful attention of the members of the society at the present time, is one known as "Silver-top." It has been noticed for some years that early in June the top joints of some of the flowering stems of June grass, also called "Kentucky Blue Grass," (*Poa pratensis*, L.) and later on in the month those of timothy (*Phleum pratense*, L.) turn white as though prematurely ripened. Upon examination these are found to have been injured above the top node. Many causes for this injury have been suggested, but as yet it is still undiscovered. The most prevalent idea is that it is the work of a kind of *Thrips*, but this is by no means proved. The lower part of the top joint has the appearance of having been sucked dry by some suctorial insect; the tissues of the stem apparently not being torn as in the case of the wheat-stem maggot (*Meromyza Americana*). The only observation so far made which appears to me to be of importance is that the attack is worst in old and exhausted meadows. This suggests breaking up such lands and manuring freely. The result of this treatment will be seen next year upon some fields where this has been tried. This attack is very similar in its effects to that of the wheat-stem maggot upon growing wheat, and like it, has steadily increased during the last three or four years. It is to be hoped, however, that as more information is gathered with regard to these attacks, practicable remedies will be discovered.

The many species of timber-boring beetles which attack our pine forests are receiving special attention from our members.

The apple worm, the caterpillar of the codling moth, (*Carpocapsa pomonella*), has been destructive in many localities; but by judiciously spraying the trees directly the petals of the flowers had fallen many fruit growers considerably lessened this evil.

The injuries to the clover-seed crop by the clover-seed midge are being also much reduced by the adoption of the system recommended in our reports of pasturing or cutting the first crop before the middle of June.

The Colorado potato beetle and the gooseberry sawfly are no longer to be feared, as easy and (when properly applied) perfectly harmless remedies have been discovered in Paris green for the one and hellebore for the other.

I must not delay you longer, but before I close I have to draw your attention to two works of exceptional interest, the first is one entitled "Entomology for Beginners," by Dr. A. S. Packard, of Providence, R. I. This is of great interest to us all, for notwithstanding, as I have endeavoured to show you this evening, the real and recognized importance of Entomological studies, we had not until this appeared any book of low price and convenient size which could be used as a class book in schools. This was a great want which is now filled by Dr. Packard's book. Another want of equal prominence was some good illustrated book which could be used as an introductory work for the use of beginners without their having to procure a number of reports and large volumes. Copious instructions are given for collecting, preserving and classifying insects, as well as references to the leading works on the different branches of the science. The section treating of classification is perhaps too much condensed, but will be found very