

optera, especially to the aquatic species, and the list of the Montreal beetles has been largely added to. Mr. F. B. Caulfield has also kindly presented us with an extensive series of local species which were previously wanting in our cabinet. Mr. Passmore and myself have also endeavoured to collect as many specimens as possible of the diptera, hymenoptera, hemiptera and orthoptera of the Island of Montreal, and our efforts have been liberally supplemented by Mr. Caulfield and other friends. When a reasonable collection has been obtained, we propose to send the diptera to Baron Osten Sacken, and the hymenoptera to Mr. Cresson, unless Mr. Bowles can find time to work them up here. The orthoptera we hope to study ourselves, and indeed have already examined and identified all those that have been collected so far. One half of the Cabinet has been rearranged, but the coleoptera and lepidoptera remain to be finished. Materials for doing this have been accumulated, and it is hoped that the work will be completed, at least to a certain extent, during the summer. For some time attention has been directed to the collection of those insects which are parasitic on our native mammals and birds. A tolerably complete series of these has been obtained. Mr. Denny's monograph on the anoplura has been purchased, so that, when time will permit, it is hoped that some novel information may be obtained about these so far neglected but very curious insects.

Our local entomologists seem to have devoted most of their energies to the collection and study of the butterflies and moths only, while other orders have received hardly any share of their attention. Almost nothing is known about the two-winged flies of the Island of Montreal, or the bees, wasps, ichneumons, etc., the grasshoppers and the order to which they belong, or the hemiptera or spiders of the same district. Considerable difficulty has been met with in the attempt to preserve the neuroptera and orthoptera, as it was found that the larvæ of dermestæ make great havoc among dried specimens in our Cabinet. An alcoholic series of the orthoptera has accordingly been attempted, with fair results, but the preservation of the larger dragon flies has yet to be accomplished.

The remainder of my own private collection of shells and fossils has been imported from England, and some progress has been made in the arrangement and naming of the same. A want of proper cabinets, however, has long delayed the final classification and exhibition of this collection in the Museum.