

Editor.—Wm. Saunders.

Editing Committee.—Rev. C. J. S. Bethune, E. B. Reed, J. M. Denton.

Auditors.—Chas. Chapman, A Puddicombe.

After the routine business was concluded, Mr. Bethune offered some remarks on the moth of the cotton worm, *Aletia argillacea*. Twelve years ago he found it extremely abundant, late in the season, on ripe plums. He had not taken the insect again until this autumn, when they were found to be quite common in his garden. The opinion which had been advanced by Prof. Riley, of Washington, that the examples of the moth taken in these northern sections had flown northward from their breeding places in the south, he did not concur in, but believed that the insect must feed on some malvaceous plant in our midst, since the specimens he had captured were very perfect, and looked as if they had just escaped from the chrysalis. He referred to the fact of this insect having been found common in many of the Northern States, as well as in Canada.

Mr. Reed stated that he had taken this insect also in London.

Mr. Moffatt exhibited a number of interesting insects which had been captured by him at Long Point and at Ridgeway, among others *Papilio cresphontes*, *P. marcellus*, *P. philenor*, *Darapsa versicolor* and *Junonia cœnia*.

Mr. Denton reported the capture of *J. cœnia* and *Libythea Bachmani* at Port Stanley; also of *Thyreus Abbotii* at London.

Mr. Moffatt stated that this beautiful sphinx, *T. Abbotii*, had been comparatively common in Hamilton, and that a number of the larvæ had been reared.

Mr. Fletcher reported having captured two specimens of *Erebus odora* at Ottawa, one of them so perfect that he thought it was impossible that it could have flown for any distance, and thinks it must have bred in the neighbourhood.

Mr. Saunders referred to several other instances of the capture of this rare moth in Canada during the past few years.

Mr. Fletcher referred to the fact that during the last year there were published a number of papers on popular Entomology, and he hoped to see them continued, as he believed they were doing good service in making our valuable monthly journal more popular. Several of the members present promised to prepare papers of this character during the coming year.

Mr. Young, of Hamilton, asked for information on the best manner of preserving caterpillars, and inquired if any of the members had any experience in blowing them.

Mr. Reed stated that he had tried and failed. Mr. Fletcher had the same experience to relate, and had found that the only satisfactory method was to draw and colour them from nature.

Mr. Fletcher thought that most of our collections were deficient in specimens illustrating nature; that while we had spread specimens, we should also have them as at rest, and where possible, the larvæ, chrysalids and eggs.

Mr. Reed asked a question in reference to *Anisota rubicunda*, which he had found common on maple about London, but very hard to rear; he wished to know the experience of other collectors. Several of the members present stated that they also had found it difficult to rear them.

Mr. Young had reared a brood of them from butternut and beech, and found them to prefer beech to any other food. Mr. Bethune had also found them on beech trees.

Mr. Fletcher had found a small fly attacking beans this year; the larva had eaten the stem of the bean and bored into the root, and finally produced a small fly somewhat resembling a house fly.

Mr. Saunders had found several years ago a very similar fly, probably the same species, attacking the stems and roots of young cabbage plants. On comparing the fly with the description given in Curtis' Farm Insects of the root-eating fly, *Anthomyia radicum*, often so troublesome in Europe, he thought it probable that it was the same species. Mr. Saunders also reported the capture of *P. cresphontes* very early in spring, finding the larva nearly full grown in June, which became a chrysalis, and from which the perfect insect escaped in about a fortnight. He had also taken the full grown larva late in the fall, which had passed the winter in the chrysalis state, from which facts he drew the inference that this species is double-brooded in Canada.

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