

what is given in the Synopsis, I have not re-copied my description. The species arrived just in the last moment, when my manuscript was to be sent to Washington, therefore I have not given more details. The characters quoted—antennæ short, club large, almost orbicular; wings short the apex very much dilated; the venation peculiar, simple—make it doubtful if *M. ? pygmaea* belongs to this genus.

FURTHER INJURY TO LIVING PLANTS BY WHITE ANTS.

BY SAMUEL H. SCUDDER, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

More than twenty-five years since (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., v. 7, p. 287-288) I published an account of serious injury to living grape-vines in hot-houses in Salem, Mass., by our common species of white ants. *Termites flavipes*. No further notice of their injury to living vegetation appears to have been taken until a few years ago, when Prof. J. H. Comstock, then government entomologist, stated (Rep. Comm. Agric., 1879, 207-8) that they had been found in Texas and Florida "girdling the bark of orange trees and guava bushes near the surface of the ground, or eating out the interior of sugar-cane and other plants." "When white ants infest living plants," the report goes on to state, "they attack that part which is at or just below the surface of the ground. In the case of pampas grass, the base of the stalk is hollowed; with woody plants, as orange trees and guava bushes, the bark of the base of the trunk is eaten, and frequently the tree is completely girdled; with sugar-cane the most serious injury is the destruction of the seed cane."

Still more recently, Dr. H. A. Hagen published in the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST (v. 17, p. 134-136) another instance here in Cambridge where living maple trees were largely infested by them, though the ants appeared to have done little damage, the trees being "apparently in good condition," but one of them being felled it was found that for a couple of feet above the ground, to the depth of an inch from the surface, the trunk was extensively burrowed by the white ants.

In this same article, after referring to the injury reported from Salem, Dr. Hagen adds: "The earth in the hot-houses here in Cambridge is largely infested by white ants, but as far as I know, no destruction of