

Ottawa last spring, every seed containing over a dozen of the larvæ. A fine melanic *Bombus* from the West was shown, but the species could not be recognized. Specimens of *Galeruca externa*, collected by Mr. Norman Criddle at Aweme, Man., were also shown.

Mr. Gibson showed an inflat of the larva of *Ecpantheria deflorata* which had been found feeding on violets at Niagara Glen, Ont., by Mr. J. B. Williams, of Toronto, and also exhibited samples of currants and walnuts infested by the larvæ of *Plodia interpunctella*.

A. G.

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#### INFUSORIAL EARTH NEAR LAKE WINDEMERE, B.C.

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At a meeting of the Natural History Society of British Columbia held at Victoria, on the 19th November, Mr. Anderson exhibited specimens of infusorial earth taken from beneath the surface soil of a dried-up lake about three miles west of Lake Windemere. Prof. Shutt and he were asked last September, whilst travelling through the Upper Columbia Valley, to visit the place which is owned by a Mr. Ellis and partner. On reaching the place, it was found to be in a long valley the lower end of which was shut off by a natural dyke some twenty feet in height, and from forty to fifty feet wide at its base. The extinct lake was immediately above the dyke, fifteen to twenty acres in extent, the valley containing some six hundred acres, they were told. The lake site from all appearances, had been comparatively recently covered with water, as the surface was thickly covered with water plants resembling moss, probably a species of *Myriophyllum*, in a semi-dried state. Ploughing had been attempted, but owing to the nature of the plants alluded to, it was found impossible to do so; discing was then tried, but with equally poor success. On account of the damp state of the vegetation, burning was also found to be impracticable. Mr. Ellis expressed the belief that only way to get rid of the trouble was to rake it all up and stack it. Interspersed amongst the vegetation, and covering the ground,