

In Entomology he was especially interested and formed a collection of Coleoptera of the Province, and it was through his interest in this branch of natural history that attracted the writer to him and that led to a warm friendship. My first acquaintance with him was made in 1858 at meetings of the Canadian Institute which I attended as a junior member when a student at Trinity College. Professor Croft treated me with the utmost kindness and helped and encouraged me greatly in the study of Entomology. Through him also I came to know the late Dr. William Saunders, Director of the Experimental Farms of the Dominion, who was a life-long and deeply esteemed friend.

In 1862 our devotion to the collection and study of insects arose to such a height that we thought the time had come for drawing together all those in Canada who were of similar tastes and forming a society for mutual help and encouragement. Professor Croft warmly approved of the scheme and, through his influence and that of his colleague, Professor Hincks of the Botanical Department, the Society was duly launched in the spring of 1863.

The following account is given by Mr. King in his memoir:—"Professor Croft was very honourably identified with a Society which was brought into existence chiefly through his instrumentality, and whose laudable objects are closely associated with the progress of skilled husbandry everywhere, namely, the Entomological Society of Ontario. He was the founder, or at least one of the founders, of this Society; the first meeting of its originators was held at his residence, and its present standing and widely acknowledged usefulness are largely due to his fostering care, warm advocacy, and powerful support. In disseminating information in regard to the insect pests of the agriculturist and horticulturist, as well as to insects friendly to their products, the Society has performed a work of vital service. Its admirable collections at the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia in 1876, comprising 86 cases filled with thousands of specimens carefully classified and named, attracted universal attention, and were far in advance of any other exhibit of the kind in the whole Exhibition. The economic worth of such collections can be estimated only by those who have given some attention to the subject; they form a groundwork upon which may be built up observations of great value, and