

Union are concerned, in his Seventh Annual Report, to which my information could only enable me to add a few particulars. I therefore present here in a summary form the facts collected from the region lying north of the forty-ninth parallel, as a contribution to the history of the invasion of the summer of 1874, and a slight addition to the general knowledge of the locust and its migrations.

My thanks are due to the gentlemen who have kindly answered the questions addressed to them, and especially to those who have furnished me in addition with general results of their experience.

It now seems certain that the locusts causing such widespread damage on the western plains, belong to a single species, known to entomologists by the name of *Caloptenus spretus*. For its description, Prof. Thomas' Synopsis of the Acrididæ, or Mr. Riley's report above mentioned, may be referred to. The locust is a native of the high and dry western portion of the interior plain, and not of the alpine vallies of the Rocky Mountains, as at one time supposed. North of the forty-ninth parallel, the whole area of the third, or highest prairie-plateau, and probably much of the second, are congenial breeding places, and here the locusts are always in greater or less numbers, but in certain seasons they sweep eastward and southward in immense hordes, reaching to, and even beyond the limits of the region of prairie. In range, the insect is not bounded westward by the Rocky Mountains, save where they coincide with the eastern unbroken front of the western forest region, as in British America. They extend southward at times to the Raton Mountains, and into Texas, while to the east they have spread to the prairie country of the Mississippi, and on more than one occasion have penetrated far into Iowa. Northward, they appear to be limited by the margin of the coniferous forest which opportunely follows the line of the North Saskatchewan River.

It is difficult to ascertain exactly what the causes are which lead, or drive the locust in certain years to leave its western habitat, though it is possible that simply an excessive increase in numbers may bring about that result. Only a mere fraction of the vast multitude of eggs deposited can under ordinary circumstances come to maturity, and their vitality and the survival of the young insects, may depend on so many circumstances, climatic and otherwise, that even on the above simple supposi-