

month of June is usually considered an excellent time, unless the transplanting is followed by very dry weather, which is more trying upon evergreens than on other trees.

The Malarial Mosquito.

1179. SIR,—There was an exceedingly interesting article recently in the Scientific American by Dr. H. O. Howard, of Washington, upon the distinctive features of the Malarial and Non-Malarial Mosquito (*Culex pungens*) and (*Anopheles quadrimaculatus*.) I don't suppose, however, "Anopheles Quad" are Canadian inhabitants.

A READER.

REPLY BY DR. FLETCHER.

The distinctive features of the Malaria Mosquito, as distinguished from the species of *Culex*, is the comparatively greater length of the palpi, the small processes which are found at the base of the proboscis. There is also a characteristic attitude when at rest. In the ordinary Mosquito *Culex* the legs are raised above the back, sweeping upwards, while in *Gnophes* they droop beneath the body. When at rest *Culex* holds its body parallel with the surface it is resting on, while *Anopheles* has the body at almost right angles, as if attached by the tip of the beak.

The Caprifig Insect.

1180. SIR,—I would like to know if any attempt has been made to cultivate the Fig in the Niagara District. I suppose, however, this can only be done under glass? Where can I find the

name of the insect imported from Southern Europe into California for the purpose of fertilizing the fig and increasing its size and production, and an account of it.

REPLY BY DR. FLETCHER, OTTAWA.

The insect imported from Europe into California for the purpose of fertilizing the fig and increasing its size is named *Blastophaga Grossorum*, or more generally the Caprifig insect.

North American Cricket.

1181. SIR,—Give some account of the North American Cricket, and if injurious to cereal crops in the same way as the Locust and Grasshopper?

REPLY BY DR. FLETCHER.

I do not know what species should be called distinctively the North American Cricket, for there are several kinds. Possibly *Gryllus Neglectus* is meant. This is a large black species which is commonly found under logs, but is also frequently seen hopping about in hot weather. I have never known it injurious to cereal crops although it consumes a considerable amount of vegetable matter. Its range of food is very varied, consisting about equally of animal and vegetable substances.

All of these questions could have been more suitably sent to an entomological or natural history publication, where they could have been answered more fully.

MR. E. L. GOODSSELL, of New York, has been abroad studying the apple market, and writes as follows in the New York Fruitman's Guide, on the apple market :

The apple crops of both Germany and England promise to be about the largest on record. But the quality is by no means commensurate with the quantity. Both countries have been sufferers from continued heat and drought, and as a result the apples, plentiful as they are, will be so small

and poor as to be unimportant factors in the market. As a result American apple shippers must bear in mind that they will win in the competition by force of sheer quality and quality alone, and accordingly they must be careful to send apples of only the best quality or size; otherwise they will get their fingers badly burned. It is believed that good apples will sell well in England and Germany, and will meet a large demand, especially in view of the country's recent favorable action in the matter of duties on American fruits.