

Another report states that the insect begins work in the latter part of June by eating into the tender vines where they start from the old crown or bed root ; and unless prevented, will eat the vine entirely off, thus destroying the crop ; "many times they poison the root so that the whole hill dies." Old yards die from this cause more than any other, as the borer prevails more in old than in newer ones.

Another grower states that the damage commences about the last of May or first of June, when "the head of the vine will appear slightly bent or curved, if compared with sound ones. The grub, after feeding a little time in the heart of the head, drops to the ground and makes its way into the heart of the vine below the surface of the ground, working deeper as it grows larger. The vine wilts and finally dies."

There is great diversity of opinion among growers as to the best means of ridding a yard of these pests. A few take for granted that there is no remedy, leaving the skunks to carry on the warfare alone ; and right here it may be stated that growers east and west speak most favorably of the friendly offices of this much despised animal, in the hop yard. Salt is mentioned by many growers as a remedy. It is put on after the vine has become somewhat toughened, from middle to last of June, salt on the tender new stalks killing them in a short time. Lime, ashes, sulphur, &c., are also recommended, but doubtless do little real good. Some growers emulate the skunks by digging out the grubs, often doing more damage than the pests themselves.

Mr. Pierpont says an experienced tyer of hops can tell at a glance the head containing a worm, which is crushed in an instant, but this process can only be practiced for a few days, as the worms leave the head soon after hatching. Next to the crushing process a useful remedy is to hill the hops as soon as possible and give the yard thorough cultivation. The hilling causes fibrous roots to put out above the operations of the grub and save to some extent the crop.

The most detailed statement of experience, and it seems to me the best remedial agency or means of prevention, is furnished by Mr. J. F. Clark, a grower of Otsego county, New York, who writes as follows :

When the vines are well up the poles, and at the first hoeing about the last of May or first of June, the dirt should be carefully worked away from the vine by the hoe ; all the dirt remaining between the vines must be carefully worked out with a sharpened stick, so that all the vines will be left bare as low down as where they leave the bed root ; thus they become