

seed grain imported annually into the British Isles from countries known to be infested by this fly, together with the present rapid and easy methods of transport, it is at least extremely probable that it has been introduced over and over again, and it is difficult to understand why it has not long before now secured a firm foothold there. May it not be hoped that the law which applies with regard to many noxious weeds, will also be found to hold good in the case of this injurious insect? The existence of any plant as an aggressive weed in a given locality appears to be not so much a question of the introduction of the seed, as of the plant finding there the conditions suitable to its growth and healthy reproduction. There are many plants, for instance, troublesome weeds here, which must have been frequently introduced into Europe from this continent (or in some instances taken back again to the place whence we originally received them), but which have never yet taken forcible possession of cultivated ground, e. g., the common Purslane (*Portulaca oleracea*), Hound's Tongue or Burrs (*Cynoglossum officinale*), Small Burrs (*Echinopspermum Lappula*), and the common Foxtail grasses (*Setaria glauca* and *viridis*); and then, although relatively they are far fewer, there are some which must have been frequently introduced on this continent, but which, except in a few localities, cannot (or do not) exist for more than two or three seasons, e. g., the common Scarlet Corn Poppy (*Papaver Rhæas*), Scarlet Pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*), common Groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*), Corn Gromwell (*Lithospermum arvense*), and the common Nettles (*Urtica dioica* and *urens*). In the same way there is no doubt whatever that the Colorado Potato Beetle (*Doryphora 10-lineata*) has been many times conveyed to the British Isles on transatlantic steamships, but not finding there conditions suitable to its requirements, it has failed to establish itself.

Miss Ormerod, quoting from Bulletin 4, U. S. Ent. Commission, tells us that "the original habitat of the Hessian Fly is considered most probably to have been Southern Europe and Western Asia, i. e., about the shores of the Mediterranean Sea," a district with a summer climate of far greater heat and aridity than is found in the British Isles. Again, in North America, where—whether introduced or indigenous matters not in this connection—this pest to our sorrow flourishes to a most remarkable degree, it has always dry, hot weather during the periods in which it passes through its active stages.

In view of the above facts, and notwithstanding that it has occurred in considerable numbers in many parts of Great Britain during the past