

Coleoptera and Hemiptera. As an instance, it may be mentioned that on the flowers of *Ceanothus Americana* there were seen forty-eight species of Hymenoptera, forty five of Diptera, two of Lepidoptera, thirteen of Coleoptera, and four of Hemiptera; and considerations are given as in the case of all other blossoms treated of, on the arrangement of the flowers, their form, color and other peculiarities of structure, some of them exceedingly minute, in which close and patient observation often succeeds in discovering most wonderful purpose and design for insuring cross-fertilization.

These investigations are of great interest and we commend them to the attention of entomologists and botanists as a fertile field of useful special study. Our idea of mentioning these excellent articles of Mr. Robertson's is to draw to this subject the attention it deserves from entomologists, who from their place of publication might not be aware of their existence.

J. A. GUIGNARD and J. FLETCHER.

A PEN SKETCH OF PROF. WILLIAM SAUNDERS, F.R.S.C., F.L.S., ETC.*

By F. W. GODING, M.D., Ph.D., Rutland, Illinois.

A sketch of the life of Wm. Saunders is peculiarly instructive to young men, because of the fact that he has accomplished so much with so few opportunities in the way of a liberal education, having left school at the age of fourteen; but by painstaking study and observation he has risen to the topmost pinnacle of fame as an entomologist, horticulturist and experimental agriculturist. He was born in Crediton, Devonshire, England June 16, 1836. At the age of twelve with his parents he removed to Canada, and two years later was apprenticed to a chemist. After learning the art he engaged in business, continuing it in London, Ont., until his recent promotion in 1886 to the Directorship of the Dominion Experimental Farms. As a chemist and pharmacist he is well known throughout the United States and Canada, his published papers being widely copied and translated into several foreign languages. He was President of the American Pharmaceutical Association in 1877-8, while in 1874 he was elected an honorary member of the Pharmaceutical Council of Great Britain. The Canadian Government recognizing his special qualifications appointed him Public Analyst, in which capacity he did good service in detecting and exposing adulterations, especially in articles of food. He was for a number of years, preceeding his recent promotion, Professor of Materia Medica in the Medical Department of Western University in London, Ont., a position he was peculiarly qualified to fill.

Coupled with all these attainments he has others in which we are far more deeply interested. As an entomologist and horticulturist he is known to every student of either branch, and to mention all the things accomplished by him in these departments would require far more space than is allotted to this paper. He began the study of botany some thirty-five years ago, publishing the first list of plants found in Western Ontario, embracing 545 species, in 1863. Some time prior to this he captured a fine specimen of *Papilio turnus* (in 1859 or 60) and found it possessed of so many beauties that he was led to look for others. From this chance occurrence he was directed to the study of insects in general, and as an entomologist is considered second to none in point of eminence. At the time of the organization of this society, in 1863, he took an active part, and much of its present flourishing condition is due to his careful management as President, a position he occupied during the greater part of its existence. While editor of the *Canadian Entomologist*, the only entomological magazine ever published in America that has been able to live to attain its majority, he was also one of its principal contributors, his articles published therein and in your society reports reaching many hundreds. The

*This account of the life of Prof. Saunders, whose portrait is prefixed to this Report, was written two or three years ago, and will be read with interest as conveying the impressions of a foreigner, who cannot be charged with the partiality of intimate friendship.—ED.