

and to the general public. The titles to these are: "Kitchen Garden Pests and How to Deal with Them"; "An Outbreak of the Army Worm in Maryland"; "Tortoise Beetles"; "Quebec Representatives of the Genus *Plusia*"; "Origin and Perpetuation of Arctic Forms"; "Fuller's Rose Beetle"; "Hymenoptera Parasitica"; "Insects Injurious to the Elm"; "The Entomology of Shakespeare"; and "Experiments for the Destruction of Chinch Bugs." The rest of the report is made up with selections, and notices and critiques of the most important entomological publications that had appeared in the course of the year.

The *Canadian Entomologist* has reached its twenty-third volume. It is still under the able management of the Rev. Dr. Bethune, D.C.L. It has now been permanently enlarged to twenty-four pages, and "continues to receive contributions from all the most eminent entomologists in North America, and to circulate in all parts of the world." (21st report, introductory letter from the Secretary to the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture). In the volume for 1890, articles appear from thirty-five contributors who are pursuing their investigations in various parts of British North America, the United States of America, Great Britain, British India and Germany. No less than seventeen new species of insects are described in its pages.

The constitution of the Society provides for the formation of branch associations; and in Montreal an important branch has flourished for a length of time. It was chiefly through the instrumentality of Mr. F. B. Caulfield, that this branch was called into existence; and it still enjoys the benefit of his services as vice-president. Under the presidency of Mr. H. H. Lyman, the branch is raising up a number of young and enthusiastic entomologists who give promise of attaining eminence in their favourite pursuit. At its monthly meetings original papers have been read, and descriptions of several species of beetles discovered by Mr. J. F. Hausen, one of its members, have been given. The secretary of the branch is Mr. A. F. Winn.

The scheme for the formation of sections, which was put into operation last May, continues to work admirably. The sections formed in London, the head-quarters of the Society, are four:—the Botanical, the Ornithological, the Geological and the Microscopical, all of which are doing good work. The value of all these sections to the parent society will be readily perceived: of the Botanical, in determining the food plants of insects, and in tracing insect ravages and their effects; of the Ornithological, in discovering what insectivorous birds act as checks upon the undue increase of particular kinds of insects, and in answering such inquiries as that which called forth a volume from the United States Agricultural department—whether the English sparrow (which was said to destroy large numbers of injurious larvæ) was of benefit to the community or not; of the Geological, in showing what kinds of soils are favourable to the growth of certain food plants, and thus indicating the localities for particular insects, and also in tracing the impressions left by extinct species in various Geological formations; and the Microscopical, in noting the structural peculiarities of insects, and in aiding to classify minute forms.

The Botanical section numbers 16 members. Its chairman is Mr. J. Dearness; vice-chairman, Professor Bowman, and secretary, Dr. S. Carson. Meetings for study and mutual assistance are held by it every Saturday evening, from 1st of May, until 1st of October. A number of excursions have been carried out, and some new species added to the already well examined flora of the environs of London. Two new mosses have been discovered by Mr. Dearness, and a surprisingly large number of new fungi—more than 60 now named, and some yet unnamed. These fungi are for the most part new not to Canada only, but also to the whole of America.

The Ornithological section also is flourishing. It is engaged in gathering up facts of general import to ornithology, and is commencing a systematic list of the breeding-birds of Middlesex county to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society. Its chairman is Mr. William Saunders, and its secretary, Mr. N. O. Balkwell.

The Geological section has nine members. Dr. S. Wolverton being chairman, Mr. T. Green vice-chairman, and Mr. J. L. Goodburne, secretary. The members have made regular weekly excursions, and the district around London has been well worked by them,