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In the death of Prof. C. V. Riley, the world of practical science has lost one of its brightest lights. On the morning of September 14th, Prof. Riley left his home in Washington, on his bicycle, in company with his son, to ride into the city. Not many minutes after they had started the Professor's wheel struck a stone, and he was thrown so violently from his seat, against the curb, that his skull was fractured. He was picked up unconscious, and died some hours later.

Professor Riley was an Englishman by birth, having been born at Chelsea, September 18th, 1843. He was educated in England, France, and Germany. When seventeen years of age, he came to America and settled on a farm in Illinois. Here he began his first observations on injurious insects. Four years later he went to Chicago, and from that period on to the present time he has always been accorded a foremost place among the leaders of scientific thought in America.

In 1868, Prof. Riley was appointed State Entomologist of Missouri, and it was during his tenure of that office that he prepared his celebrated nine reports on the "Noxious, Beneficial, and other Insects of Missouri." In 1878, he was appointed Entomologist to the Bureau of Agriculture; he resigned soon after, but was reappointed again in June, 1881, and held the office until about a year ago.

Prof. Riley was a man of keen perception, and possessed of great perseverance and tenacity of purpose. He was an exceptionally accurate observer, and his writings are couched in a plain, unaffected style, which never leaves any doubt as to his meaning. His investigations were markedly original, and he seldom recorded anything he had not actually seen himself. His marvellous skill as an artist enabled him to add much to the value of his writings by many exquisitely drawn figures. All his work was characterized by system and thoroughness, and, as a consequence, his writings are most valuable, and very numerous. He was also a skilful administrator, and had a faculty for gathering around him the best men available for all special lines of study. Among