

places it was exceedingly abundant, and attacked the Windsor bean as well as the potato. Five years ago it was also very common. Its appearance this year gave occasion to an article in one of the French newspaper published in Three Rivers, which is such a wonderful production that it is well worthy of being placed on record. Entomologists will have a smile at it, and think that a little better acquaintance with insect life would do our farmers and journalist no harm. The following is a free translation of the article:—

"A NEW PLAGUE."

"We are threatened, it would seem, by a new plague. A citizen, a good observer, reports to us that he noticed the following phenomenon in a fine field of potatoes on his ground in this town. He tells that he found on his potatoes a large quantity of blue beasts winged, and the colour of blue stone, which rapidly devoured all the leaves of the plants, leaving only the bare stems. He gathered more than a quart of these insects. After some time, the insect undergoes a change. It dries in the sun, an opening appears, beside the shoulders, near the neck, and a very active fly emerges, at first of a blue colour, which alights on the cabbages, and doubtless continues its ravages there. As it grows older, this fly becomes grass-coloured, probably on account of feeding on the cabbage leaves. This subject is a most important one, and merits the close attention of our agriculturists."

What can the "active fly" be, which makes its appearance in such an extraordinary manner, issuing (as the Abbe Provancher expresses it), like Minerva from the brain of Jupiter? This mystery will probably remain forever unsolved. The only solution that can be offered is, that as the "good observer" has mixed things so promiscuously, he may have mistaken the larva *Pieris rapae* for a fly, and fathered (or mothered) it on the unfortunate Blistering Beetle, which has enough to do in attending to the potatoes, without providing for cabbage also.

This beetle seems to be the most injurious of the insects infesting the potato crop in Lower Canada, and its attacks cease about the beginning of August when the insect is supposed to enter the earth to deposit its eggs. Cutworms, however, did some harm last spring by nipping off the young shoots; and a larva (perhaps of the same family), destroyed the seed in some places, by eating it in the ground, as I was informed by a farmer in the vicinity of Quebec.—G. J. BOWLES, Quebec, in *The Canadian Entomologist*.

VALUABLE SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.

A paragraph in the *Press and Messenger*, of Knoxville, Tenn., informs us that the noted South Down ram *Peebles*, and six others of the same flock, belonging to Messrs. Hough and Church and David Lee, of that city, were recently killed by dogs.

We never see a notice of such an occurrence without a feeling of the utmost contempt for the little mole-eyed, jack-leg lawyers who infest our legislative halls, and have neither sense enough to comprehend the necessity for, nor manliness to advocate, the enactment of laws intended to discourage dog-raising, and encourage sheep-raising in at least the Southern and Western States. Regularly in this State, at almost every session of the General

Assembly, for many years, some rural, unprofessional member has introduced a bill for an act of the kind referred to, and just as regularly his efforts to have it passed have been defeated by the active opposition of some fellow whose brain would hardly bear comparison with that of an average ram, together with the culpable indifference of other better-endowed members. The seven victims of that midnight raid at Nashville were beyond all question of more money value, present and prospective, to the State of Tennessee, than all the dogs in that commonwealth. Similar outrages are occurring at short intervals all over the country.—Hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property are destroyed annually, and one of the most important branches of live-stock husbandry rendered hazardous or impossible for want of such legislation as nine-tenths of the people in every civilized community would not only acquiesce in, but heartily endorse, if once in operation.

In addition to the liability of the owner of a dog for liberal damages on account of depredations committed, declare every such animal when off his owner's premises and unaccompanied by him, an outlaw, to be killed by any person who does the world the small service of destroying him, and the flockmaster will find his remedy in due time. We long for the time when hunting for "suck-egg hounds" and worthless curs shall be the favorite, law-protected sport with farmers' sons and school-boys out for a holiday.—*National Live Stock Journal*.

ELECTRICITY ON THE FARM.—The *American Arisan* in noticing some curious patents that have been taken out in Great Britain, says: "One Henry Pinkus, who seems to have been a highly original genius in his way, got a patent in 1840 for operating agricultural implements by electricity! His plan was to place a battery in some central position, in a "deep well or tank," so as to be out of the way. From thence pipes containing insulated wires are laid all over the plantation, having at various convenient places "vertical branches," terminating in suitable boxes. To put the implements into action, a "rotary electro-magnetic locomotive" is to be used with a drum, carrying and winding up the battery wires.

INTRODUCTION OF HORSES.—*Hearth and Home* is the authority for the following: Historical records show that up to 1632 there were no horses in New England, and their introduction into New Netherlands, now New York, occurred during the administration of Gov. Von Twiller, in 1633-38. Trumbull's History of Connecticut mentions the horses accompanying emigrants from Massachusetts to that state, Oct. 15th, 1636. The first horse seen in Canada was brought to that country from France, in a ship which arrived at Tadoussac, June 20th, 1647. It is estimated that there are now in this country eight million of horses, valued at between two and three thousand millions of dollars, a sum ample to pay the national debt.

HOPS IN CALIFORNIA.—The *Pacific Rural Press* says. But little attention has ever been paid by our citizens to the raising of hops, yet it is a crop that is quite remunerative. Mr. Clock, of St. Helena, has for several years been cultivating a few acres of hops. He was somewhat unfortunate at first, but his crop this year is unusually large, and will bountifully pay him for all his losses and dis-