one in Cape Colony. A brief account of its occurrence here may not be uninteresting.

Under various common names, this insect has been known about Cape Town for at least twenty-five years. Owing to the slight attention paid to fruit culture until within a comparatively short time, and also to the lack of transportation facilities, it has not, however, become nearly so widespread as would have been the case had such favourable conditions as are found in the United States prevailed. And yet, despite of adverse circumstances, it has become established at many of the principal centres, both east and west, and in the country adjacent to the seaports. One serious occurrence in the Transvaal has been reported to me, and M. d'Emmerez de Charmoy, of the Museum at Port Louis, writes that it is destructive in Mauritius. From Cape Town, it has spread inland for about one hundred miles, and within this area I do not think there is any orchard insect pest, with the exception of the Fruit Fly *(Ceratitis capitata)*, that gives greater trouble.

The peach is pre-eminently the food-plant of *Diaspis amygdali*, and notwithstanding the vigorous growth it makes in this climate, this tree is not infrequently killed to the ground; more often, branch by branch dies, and the tree becomes misshapen and unproductive. Reddish stains, both in the rind and pulp, are produced on the fruit of some varieties; and if the attack begins when the fruit is very green, malformation results. Many other food-plants are cited by Professor Webster, but the list might be greatly lengthened. The China Tree *(Melia azedarach)*, known here as Syringa, a tree adapted to the requirements of several of our common scale pests, sometimes gets thoroughly coated with this one. Many Solanaceous plants assist in passing the infection from orchard to orchard; chief among these are *Solanum sodomæum*, *S. giganteum* and *S. aculeastrum* (?) (Natal Thorn). *Myoporum insulare*, chiefly grown here as a hedge plant, is similarly responsible. Fortunately, the pomaceous fruits are nearly exempt from attack; I have not seen it at all on apple, and not on more than a dozen pears.

Upwards of fifty per cent. of the insects are here destroyed by parasites on many trees, and a further large percentage is devoured by Coccinellids. But the loss might be ninety-five per cent., and still the increase be a hundred fold in twelve months. Three to four generations are passed in a year, and two hundred young from one female is not exceptional. The multiplication may prove less rapid in the Northern