

from him, and assured my friend that it might easily have caused serious trouble. Small insects cause frequent annoyance and occasional slight pain by flying into eyes and ears, but it is fortunate that such formidable hard-shelled beetles as the species just mentioned do not make a habit of exploring our ears. Had the case been that of some "blockhead," one might have supposed that the beetle had visited him under the guidance of instinct, but in the present instance the intrusion must have been merely the result of accident.

Much as beetles injure man's property, they seldom attack his body, but there is one Canadian species which most decidedly indulges in that unpleasant habit, and to an extent that is perhaps unknown to many entomologists. I refer to *Melanophila longipes*, which occurs here from 12th May to 12th Oct., and is usually abundant during the hot season, basking upon stone walls, etc. It has a fashion of lighting on one's collar and inflicting a sharp nip on the nape of the neck, and then disappearing with great swiftness. I have often been thus bitten, and have sometimes, by making a sudden grab, taken the beetle in the act and proved his identity. Last summer several instances of persons being bitten fell under my observation. While at dinner one day in a hotel, three or four sitting at the same table complained that some "confounded fly" had nipped them viciously. The gentleman sitting next to me was one of the victims and caught the offender, but it escaped almost immediately, only allowing him to see that it was black and harder than a fly. I was just going to say that it was probably a specimen of *M. longipes*, when I got a nip that settled the question and the insect.

A few weeks ago I was trying to convince two ladies that beetles might be handled fearlessly, as they had no biting propensities, when one of them at once exclaimed, "don't tell us that, for there is a nasty, little, flat, black beetle that bites me on the neck in the summer."

Ottawa, 25th January, 1883.

W. HAGUE HARRINGTON.

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LISTS OF NAMES OF CANADIAN INSECTS.—The Council of the Entomological Society of Ontario having recently decided to issue additional sheets of the names of insects of all orders found within the Dominion of Canada; we should be glad to receive from any of our Canadian members lists of such insects as they may have which are not included in the sheets already published by the Society, so as to make the sets as complete as possible.