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PRACTICAL AND POPULAR ENTOMOLOGY.—No. 11. HOUSEHOLD INSECTS.

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Who is not interested in the insects that persist in living in our homes as unwelcome guests? Some of these intruders are blood-thirsty creatures, and torment the bodies of their helpless hosts; some confine their attentions to the carpets, woollens, and upholstery, and others are partial to the pantry, but all are heartily hated by the industrious housewife. In a short popular article such as this one, only brief notes will be given regarding the habits of some of the most important house insects, and only the best practical treatment will be indicated. The writer would refer those readers who desire to know more about these insects to the Reports of the Ontario Entomological Society, and to the Bulletins of the Bureau of Entomology at Washington.

For convenience of consideration, household insects may be grouped as follows:

1. Those molesting and annoying the inmates of the house: House-flies, Mosquitoes, Fleas, and Bed-bugs.
2. Those injuring the carpets, woollens and upholstery: Carpet-beetles and Clothes-moths.
3. Those feeding on food products in the pantry: Larder-beetles, Ham-mites, Cheese-skippers, Meal-worms, Flour-beetles and Flour-moths, Cockroaches, and House-ants.

HOUSE-FLIES.—There are several species of these ubiquitous creatures. The common House-fly (*Musca domestica*) may annoy, but it never bites us. The Stable-fly (*Stomoxys calcitrans*) is a frequent visitor to our houses, more especially just before rain, and torments us by its sharp bites. Another species is the Blue-bottle or Blow-fly, but the House-fly is by far the most abundant form. The eggs of this species are deposited mainly on horse-manure about stables. A generation occupies from 10 to 14 days, depending on the temperature, the egg stage lasting about 24 hours, the larval or maggot stage from five to seven days, and the pupal stage from five to seven days. As each female lays over 100 eggs, it will