

ENTOMOLOGY.

EDITED BY W. HAGUE HARRINGTON.

The family Carabidæ contains a large number of species of beetles of predaceous habits, and consequently of importance to mankind in destroying the larvæ of obnoxious insects. The beetles are easily found, as they mostly hide during the day under stones or similar shelters, and many of the species are so abundant as to be seen hurrying off whenever any stone or piece of wood is turned over in a field or similar locality. The largest and most conspicuous of the Ottawa species of Carabidæ belong to the genus *Calosoma*, although they are nearly approached in size by *Harpalus coliginosus*, a large dull-black beetle, which inhabits sandy fields, but is not common.

Calosoma calidum is abundant in fields and gardens, where it does good work in destroying cutworms, and it is readily recognized by the three conspicuous rows of fiery spots, or foveæ, which ornament each elytron. Occasionally a specimen occurs in which the spots are bright green instead of coppery or golden red, and in the west such coloration is more common. Of a large number received from Rev. G. W. Taylor, of Victoria, about seventy-five per cent. have the green foveæ. This beetle has a wide distribution in Canada, extending from Nova Scotia to Vancouver Island.

The probable occurrence here of the large handsome green *Calosoma scrutator* has been noted in the present volume, and it is hoped that its presence at the capital may be verified. There is, however, a third species which combines some of the features of both the previous beetles, approaching *scrutator* in its shape and slender legs, but in colour resembling *calidum*, and also in the ornamentation of the elytra, except that the rows of foveæ, or punctures, are not so pronounced, and that they are green. This beetle is not often seen and may be classed with our rarer species of ground beetles. On 23rd May, 1883, a specimen was taken under a piece of driftwood on the lower end of Kettle Island, about three miles below the city, and it was several years before another was found, which was an accidental capture in the city on 28th June, 1891. Last year, on the 12th June, in a corner of the Hull beaver-meadow, on the margin of the woods, a large beetle was seen running in the grass, and on capture it proved to be the species in question: *Calosoma frigidum*.