

excrement of caterpillars. It is placed on the Ottawa list for the first time this year, several specimens having been obtained near Dow's Swamp, on Saturday, 26th August.

*Phymata Wolffi*, a peculiarly shaped bug, with robust raptorial fore-legs, often lies in wait among the flowers for bees and other insects. It was quite abundant at Casselman on one occasion (8th Aug.) when the Club visited that point, but none have been observed about Ottawa this season.

The Mullein is able to nourish its broad flannel leaves and tall spikes of yellow flowers in thin and stony fields, where even the thistle is starved out. It is not much attacked or frequented by insects, but a small stout weevil, or snout-beetle, *Gymnetron teter*, infests the seed-vessels. The larvæ and pupæ may generally be obtained from the nutlets, and they were especially abundant this year in mulleins growing along the gravelly beach at Aylmer. On some spikes there was hardly an uninfested nutlet.

Probably fifty per cent. of the seeds of the common Canada thistle are devoured by the maggots of a two-winged fly, *Trypeta pluescentæ*, whose presence may be detected by the irregular appearance of the down, or pappus, on plucking which it comes away without the seed and is found all matted together at the base and containing one or more yellowish maggots or pupæ, which are those of the beneficial fly.

A parasite of the fly is also very common and destroys a large proportion of the maggots. It belongs to the genus *Solenotus* of the Chalcididae, and has been named by Hr. Ashmead *S. Fitcheri*, but its description has not yet been published.

From the infested heads are also bred numbers of another small chalcid, very similar in appearance to the *Solenotus*. Mr. Ashmead, who has described it in the Canadian Entomologist, considers it to be a secondary parasite.

Upon the Milkweeds at this season a very handsome greenish-black beetle with orange markings is not uncommon. It is of the same size as the Colorado potato-beetle, to which it is closely allied, and has received the name of *Doryphora chloricollis*.

A handsome black and scarlet bug, *Lygeus Kalmii*, is also abundant, but the strong odour which it emits, in common with many hemiptera, makes its capture and investigation somewhat unpleasant.