

spring of 1885. This summer it extended its excavations and grew to over half an inch in length. After a second winter's sleep, it grew still more vigorous in 1886, boring this large hole up the centre of the stem, then out to the bark to prepare a way for its escape. But towards winter it filled up this point and enlarged its cavity in the interior of the stem, and became dormant, with its head directed towards its future place of exit. Then in the spring of 1887, it cast its skin and became a pupa. In two or three weeks the perfect beetle came out of its chrysalis case, with all its parts very soft. In a few days the wing cases and other parts of the beetle became hard, and it eat its way through the prepared opening in June, when Jack caught it for our collection.

S. It lives, then, for about three years in the living wood, does it?

T. It does. But now that you know its life history, what would you suggest to be done to preserve our apple trees from them?

S. I don't see that much can be done when they get into the middle of the tree.

ANOTHER S. We might scrape the bases of the trees and search for their borings in August and September. If they were scraped off before they got deep into the bark, that would put an end to them.

ANOTHER S. And if they were older you could find out their places by looking for their castings and scraping and tapping the bark. And if it should be hollow under the bark, I would open up their burrow and kill them with a sharp pointed knife, or a wire.

JACK. Couldn't something be put on the stems of the trees in June and July, when the beetle lays its eggs, that would keep them away.

T. Very good. I see that when you know the life history of an insect, you know about as well as anyone how to treat them. All your suggestions are good; and so is Jack's, especially, because if successful, the tree would not be injured at all. Mr. Saunders, superintendent of our Dominion experimental farms, recommends painting the tree stems with soft soap made as thick as paint by adding a strong solution of washing soda in water to it. A dry day will cause this to harden, and unless the season is very rainy it need be used only once in early June and once in early July.

S. Where did this beetle come from?

T. It is a native of America, first described by Thomas Say in 1824. In 1825, its first destructive effects were felt in the State of New York.

S. Does it do much harm in this country?

T. It has destroyed thousands of dollars' worth already in this country. But you now know how we can save all this loss, with but a little intelligence and labor.

S. Are there any other kinds of insects that bore apple trees?

T. There are one or two others common, but we shall talk about them some other time.

### AMONG THE CONSTELLATIONS.

#### No. II.

"In fourteen hundred and ninety-two  
There happened to be a great ado,  
For close without, before the town,  
The seventh of November's moon,  
A stone was fallen, and there it lay,  
With thunder and in open day!  
Two hundred and a half it weighed;  
Its color iron. Then they made  
Procession, and 'twas hither borne;  
But much by force from it was torn."

— *Old Translation of Inscription on the Ensisheim Aerolite.*

Of the Ensisheim aerolite it could be truly said, "A stone was fallen and there it lay." Of the 15th September meteor of the Atlantic Provinces of Canada, notwithstanding all the positive assertions based on the evidence of "my very own eyes," the rhymster cannot say it. It has been seen to fall in Pugwash harbor, over the new Pictou railway bridge, in the woods of Maine, and in somebody's backyard in Halifax. It was observed to be of the size of a plate, of a pumpkin, of the end of a barrel, of an elephant, and of a box car. It ran to the east, to the west, to the south, and even to the north. But there was some excuse for this. The meteor was evidently never so flamboyantly flustered before. Its peep at the domicile of Adam's race, through the azure of a Nova Scotian sky, no doubt surprised it in its mad rush. We believe it is off never to return. What a lot of gaping, mildly intelligent, enraptured countenances it must have thrown its startled beams into in those few seconds! If there are a half dozen of these able to describe its position with reasonable accuracy, then we are not acquainted with them all. A leading daily next morning had telegrams from various points of the province, giving very fair, some very good, descriptions of the phenomenon. The rural papers repeated some of these instead of interviewing some person in their vicinity who had seen it. The results are that the single edition of that paper did as much to determine the elements of the problem as all the rest of the press from Cape North to Cape Cod.

Now, in hope that the readers of the REVIEW will be ready for the next meteor, remember that it is an object comparatively near the earth—within one hundred miles. If it fell vertically over St. John it would never be noticed there, especially were it as large as the meteor of the 15th. The arrival of a