The Canadian Entomologist

VOL. LII.

LONDON, MARCH, 1920.

No. 3

POPULAR AND PRACTICAL ENTOMOLOGY.

A SOLDIER'S COLLECTING DAY IN FRANCE.

BY RICHARD T. GARNETT, Oakland, California.

We were stationed away back of the lines but when they were putting over a big drive we were busy handling supplies, so that I was not sorry when a lull came that allowed me a day off.

I was stationed in the heart of Burgundy at Beaune, near the edge of the little range of hills known as the Cote d'Or. Here the forest-covered hills come down to meet the town, and it was to these hills that I made my way on this particular morning.

I had hardly started out the Faubourg when what should I find sitting on the sidewalk but a splendid specimen of Lamia textor Linné. This longicorn resented my grasping propensities very much and tried his best to bite a piece from my thumb. A little more and the town Octroi or limits was past, and on turning over a stone a fine large specimen of Carabus coriaceus Linné was acquired. In like manner under a neighbouring rock were picked up three more of the same and two Carabus violaceus Linné. Decidedly the species were well known, but they had charm for me as it was a new hunting ground. Carabus auratus was soon added to my list of discoveries, and it was not long and I had a fair series of each. A little further on I came to an apple tree with a little fruit on it. In response to a hearty shake of the tree I was rewarded by several hundred lively specimens of Melolontha vulgaris Linné, who "possumed" dead long enough for me to gather all I wanted, and then took wing. The leaves of this tree I found on-closer examination were in a sad state of dilapidation due to these ravenous Scarabs.

A little bit further on I found several Cetonia aurata Linné, and a great many Cetonia hirtella Linné upon the flowers of mustard. A rose in a nearby garden yielded from its heart a Trichius fasciatus Linné. A few stones on the hillside yielded several specimens of Pterostichus vulgaris Linné, and a little further on a single rock provided cover for at least thirty specimens of that pretty little Bombardier, Brachynus plagiatus Reiche. Continuing this sort of collecting I soon added some more Carabus auratus Linné to the bag as well as several Abax ater Vill, and A. parallelus Dftsch.

On coming to a fallen log in a moist condition I removed from their snug position beneath the bark a series of *Uleiota* (*Brontes*) planata Linné, and several *Hispella atra* Linné. A little further on some manure yielded a pair of *Geotrupes sylvaticus* Panz. and one *G. stercorarius* Linné as well as several Staphylinidæ unknown to me. A little further on I captured as it ran along on the edge of a pine grove a fine specimen of *Carabus marginalis* Rz, a very lively and speedy runner. This pine grove was exceptionally well cared for, all fallen limbs and