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## FURTHER MATERIAL CONCERNING THE HESSIAN FLY.

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The third report of the U. S. Entomological Commission, Washington, 1883, contains an excellent paper on the Hessian Fly, by Prof. A. S. Packard, p. 195-248, and in the appendix, p. 3-49, the translation of German papers by Loew, Wagner, Cohn, Koeppen, formerly not known by the Professor; also a reprint of my paper in the CAN. ENT., Oct., 1880, "The Hessian Fly not imported from Europe." The Professor accepts now (p. 238): That the Hessian Fly had appeared in the Eastern U. S. before the Revolutionary War, and that it could not have been introduced by the Hessians. He was not able to find in the files of the Pennsylvania *Mercury* and Philadelphia *Packet* some reference to the earlier occurrence of the H. Fly (App. p. 3).

I have tried since my paper was published to make further investigations in the old American literature. Some startling discoveries will probably necessitate the modification of some of the conclusions of the Professor. But I have frankly to state that I found it very hard to investigate the older literature. The publications treating agriculturally are rare, and at least in the libraries to which I have access, mostly incomplete. Mr. A. Fitch made the same complaint forty years ago. He was not able to compare some very important papers, though his publications show clearly that perhaps no one has tried to bring together the literature with a similar care.

### *The Occurrence of the Hessian Fly in North America before the Revolution.*

The American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia appointed, in 1791, a committee for the purpose of collecting, and communicating to the Society, materials for the natural history of the insect called Hessian Fly, as also information of the best means of preventing or destroying the insect, and whatever else relating to the same might be interesting to agriculture.