

insects frequently emerge from the same gall. These are first of all the gall-maker. Then what are known as "guests" or "inquilines," which do not make the galls, but which live in and upon them after they are formed, and lastly there are various kinds of parasites which prey upon the gall-makers and their guests. Trees and plants which will always supply the collector with material for study are the oaks, the roses, the various willows, and several kinds of composite plants as *Solidago*, *Aster* and *Lactuca*. Besides the galls which may be found on the stems during the winter, there are many more which are formed on the leaves, which must be collected during the summer.

A good deal of work was done last season in breeding insects, both from the egg and from larvæ and pupæ collected in the field. This is without doubt one of the most useful and absorbing branches of Entomology. Successful remedies for injurious species can only be arrived at by carefully working out their life histories, so that the stage in which they may be most advantageously attacked may be discovered. In order that this information may be complete it is necessary to breed the insects from the egg to maturity. The eggs of many kinds are readily obtained and easily reared. The leaders are of the opinion that if some of our members, who have never given any attention to the study of insects would only collect a single species of the many beautiful butterflies which appear early in the Spring, confine it over its food-plant until it laid its eggs, and then watch the caterpillars through their different stages till they changed to chrysalids, and then again come forth as the perfect butterflies, that they would find so much pleasure in the observations that many more would join in the work of this branch. It will always give them much pleasure to advise or instruct anyone who applies to them, as to the best means of capturing, confining and treating the female insects and the young caterpillars after they hatch, but the operation may be briefly described as follows. Having caught a female insect of which the food-plant is known, confine it by means of a bag of gauze tied over a small plant, or if the food-plant be a tree by drawing the bag over a branch, so that the insect may have fresh living leaves to lay upon. The cage so formed should be so placed that the direct rays of the sun cannot fall upon it. Eggs will generally be laid in