

Michigan, the general Entomological Club, organized last year at Hartford, met for the first time. Its sessions, held daily throughout the week of meeting, were remarkably interesting. They were presided over by Dr. Le Conte, undoubtedly the greatest of living American Entomologists, and were attended by a great majority of the noted Entomologists of this continent. Our own Society was most efficiently represented by our able Editor, Mr. Saunders. I much regret that the pressure of business matters at home prevented me from accompanying him, as I fully intended to have done. As a complete report of the proceedings is being published in THE CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, I need not detain you by any account of them here. Next year the meeting is to be held at Buffalo, N. Y.—a place even more convenient of access for Canadians than Detroit. We trust that a large number of our members will avail themselves of the opportunity—which may not occur again for many years to come—of attending the sessions, and making the personal acquaintance of our American brethren. From past experience I can assure them of a hearty welcome, while no one can doubt that more valuable information can be acquired in a few days, in an assemblage of this kind, than can be obtained in years of solitary work.

During the season that is now all but brought to a close, there has occurred nothing of a very startling or unexpected character. The Colorado Beetle has continued to extend his ravages throughout our country, but he has been met by such a determined and universal resistance that his work of devastation has been hardly appreciable; certainly in the central portion of this Province we have never had a finer crop of potatoes, both as regards quantity and quality. The Cabbage Butterfly (*Pieris rapæ*), to which I also referred last year, has been rapidly extending to the west, and has already become a common object in the neighbourhood of London. So closely, however, does its parasite (*Pteromalus puparum*) follow in its wake, that where a year ago it was most destructive to all its food-plants, it has this season wrought but a moderate amount of damage. The Locusts, or Grasshoppers, of the west (*Caloptenus spretus*) have continued to commit much havoc, though not by any means on the frightful scale of last year; there is every prospect that the destitution and suffering then occasioned by them will not be repeated to any very great extent this year. While there has been, upon the whole, a decided diminution in the amount of loss occasioned by noxious insects during the past year, we have, nevertheless, to record an increase in the numbers and consequent power for evil of several common species that are always more or less abundant. Among the most notable I may mention the Army Worm (*Leucania unipuncta*), which has wrought much damage in the maritime Provinces of the Dominion, as well as in some portions of the United States; the two species of Tent Caterpillars (*Clisiocampa Americana* and *Sylvatica*), which have been excessively abundant and destructive to fruit and forest trees in many parts of this Province; and the Pea Weevil (*Bruchus pisi*), which we much fear may soon become—unless measures are taken to prevent it—a source of great loss to our agriculturists. These I mention as having had a more than usual manifestation this year. But I need not detain you with any account of the ordinary work of our insect friends and foes, which are so familiar to every one in this country.

As I mentioned at the outset, you have done me the great honour of electing me your President for five years in succession. While I thank you most cordially for your kindness and consideration so repeatedly shown to me, I feel that it is only reasonable that I should now make way for some one else, who may be able to devote more time and energy to the interests of our Society, and be of more real use to it than I have latterly been capable of. I beg, therefore, to resign into your hands the office that you have so long honoured me with; at the same time, I desire to say that I shall continue always to have the welfare of the Society at heart, and that I shall ever be ready and willing to do all that lies in my power to advance its best interests.

Again offering you my respectful thanks,

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES J. S. BETHUNE.

Trinity College School,  
Port Hope, September, 1875.