

its rock ledges and bluffs be omitted; nor Calais and other sandy beaches; nor the cliffs and upland flats near Speightstown—each somewhat different in its aspect from the other, and lending some variety to the scenery as well as to the day's catch.

The Arachnids are extremely well represented on Barbados, and vary in size from spiders with an extent of from four to five inches to the minute *Tetranychus*. The Barbados tarantula, a tailless whip scorpion, is among the most interesting of the group, and is commonly found under the moist bark of decaying trees.

Myriapods are very common. A black Julid with transverse markings of green and averaging from four to four and one-half centimeters in length is most abundant. On one occasion a sort of migratory movement of these Arthropods was observed. Hundreds of them were crossing the dazzling white coral road in moving from one cane field to another, and all seemed to be going in the same direction. A small Polydesmid is very common under rocks along the bases of the terraces.

Scolopendrids are abundant under sticks and stones in damp places and under the dried leaves of sugar cane, with which some of the fields are covered. These Centipedes are known locally as "forty-legs," and the natives have a great fear of them. The popular belief is that a bite from one of them will cause a "fever" in the victim. The specimens are commonly from three to six inches in length, very active and difficult to handle, and it requires considerable dexterity to transfer one safely to the killing bottle without being bitten.

Many years ago the Mongoose (*Herpestes*) was imported into Barbados for the purpose of destroying the rats. It is now fairly common all over the island. While it, no doubt, has been responsible for some diminution in the number of rats the experiment has not been a success, for in addition to its destruction of birds of various kinds, particularly the Ground doves (*Columbigallina*), the blood-thirsty animal has killed off a great many lizards and centipedes, which are enemies of insects. As a result destructive insects have become more abundant on the island since the introduction of this animal, which is now much despised by the natives.

Of the Hexapoda only the more conspicuous will be mentioned here. On account of the scarcity of suitable breeding places the order Odonata is not well represented. The vicinity of Indian and Bird Rivers and the large swamp in the suburbs of Bridgetown offer limited opportunity for larval development. The common pond fly (*Erythrodiplox umbrata*) and the red pond fly (*Tramea abdominalis*) are probably the most abundant. Four or five other representatives of the order occur here also.

The order Orthoptera is represented by a goodly number of species. Earwigs (*Forficula*) are common in rocky places in the vicinity of cane fields, and in leaf sheaths and stems of old canes. Cockroaches are abundant in cane fields and houses; a half dozen species are found on the island. One of the most common, and at the same time conspicuous representatives of the group is the large, yellowish, short-horned grasshopper (*Schistocerca pallens*), which is found commonly on the flats grown up in sour grass. The insect is very difficult to capture on account of its rapid flight and its habit, when closely pursued, of crawling some distance in the short grass before again taking flight, and then