

ents from twelve to fifteen miles east and west of here, had observed and mentioned their flight. Although their course was precisely in that direction, Prof. Forbes, of the State Normal Museum, writes that "no observations had been made there regarding the migrating of this insect," and he kindly identified the last named species for me; however both have been carefully looked up and identified as being separate, by other well informed Entomologists, all agreeing with me that the above names are correct.

Whether their migrating was instinctive, or forced by the Manitoba wave, then reported in Chicago papers as having arrived in that direction, after a spell of very warm weather; or caused by the dry season, the ponds having become so exhausted as to afford no pasturage for their larvæ, seems a matter of conjecture; most likely the latter, however, as the cold wave reached here but very slightly.

NOTES ON LAST YEAR'S COLLECTING.

BY J. ALSTON MOFFAT, HAMILTON, ONT.

No one I think can have been long engaged in collecting insects without having noticed the remarkable diversity in the products of different years, not only in quantity, but in kinds. Each summer seems to bring its own particular species to the front, so that if a person wishes to get a moderately correct idea of the insects of any locality, it is necessary for him not only to hunt diligently all the season, but every season for a considerable length of time; and if he has from any cause missed one, he may be sure he has missed something which it may be years before he will again have an opportunity of securing, or securing in the same abundance. The causes of these variations seem as yet to a great extent a mystery.

Insect hunting could not be said to be good in this locality last summer. It might be considered very poor, yet it produced its new things for the collection, and some things in plenty which had hitherto been scarce. On the 12th of May I came across some specimens of a *Pieris* which I thought were poor specimens of *oleracea*, but which Mr. Edwards determined to be *Virginiensis*. On the 23rd I took a very attractive *Chrysomela*, which is in the Society's Coll. in London as *C. labyrinthica*, but which the authorities say is *multiguttis* of Crotch's Check List, of which