

I have not yet ascertained what others have done, but the following notes of my own observations may interest some readers of the ENTOMOLOGIST :

At the opening of the season the Cockchafer (*L. fusca*) was almost the only visitant, but in such numbers that specimens might be collected by the quart for a few evenings. Gradually other species appeared. *Belostoma americanum* and *Calosoma calidum* were conspicuous, the former for its size, and the latter for its beauty. The former has obtained the popular name of the "electric light bug." It is supposed to have appeared with the lamps, and is oftenest brought to me for identification. The grave-digger beetles, *Necrophorus*, *Silpha* and *Hister*, were not infrequent. Why they come to the light is not easy to say. Possibly the carion which they usually seek is slightly phosphorescent, and attracts them by its glow, and they are deceived by the brilliancy of the electric arc. Several small Carabids were abundant about the same time, but have not yet been identified.

As June advanced moths became more abundant than beetles, not because the latter fell off, but because the former largely increased. On warm evenings a perfect swarm played round the lamps, hour after hour. Every now and then one and another dashed into the globe, struck the glowing carbons, dimmed the light and was killed or consumed with a hissing noise. By morning a handful, sometimes a half pint, of dead insects was accumulated at the bottom of the lamp-glass, mostly scorched and burnt. In this way immense numbers are destroyed, but no apparent diminution ensued. One morning in June I obtained about a hundred specimens of the very abundant little grass moth (*Crambus mutabilis* Clem.) from every lamp examined. This means a destruction of above ten thousand individuals nightly of this one species. As the process has been going on for at least a fortnight, the 102 lamps in this city have killed about 1,500,000 individuals. Yet still they come, and in undiminished numbers.

Since then Dart-moths (Cut-worms) of various species have begun to appear. About the middle of June I collected above 50 specimens from three lamps. It was apparently *A. subgothica* Haworth, though Riley (Entomolog. Rep. of Mo., 1868, p. 82) says this species does not appear till September. Positive identification of these moths is often difficult. This implies the destruction of about 1,500 nightly. Other species of Dart-moths not yet identified were equally numerous. One would think such wholesale slaughter must diminish their numbers, and perhaps the