

The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. XLVI.

LONDON, OCTOBER, 1914

No. 10

DR. WILLIAM SAUNDERS, C. M. G.

On Sunday afternoon, September 13th, after an illness which had continued for nearly two years, and which for a twelve-month had rendered him mentally incapable, Dr. William Saunders passed to his rest at his home in London, Ontario, in the 79th year of his age. He was born in Devonshire, England, and came to Canada with his parents when a boy of twelve. His educational advantages were meagre, but he succeeded in obtaining a technical training in Chemistry and set up in business as a retail druggist in London. His agreeable manners, thorough honesty and untiring industry brought him a fair measure of success. His love of nature led him to the collection of wild plants and insects which could be found in abundance in the neighbourhood, and he became an ardent student of Botany and Entomology. Finding many medicinal plants readily obtainable, he began the preparation of fluid extracts, which were so pure and reliable that they soon became widely and favourably known among the medical profession, and led by degrees to the establishment of an extensive and lucrative business both wholesale and retail. Years later, when he became Director of the Experimental Farms of the Dominion, the wholesale business was transferred to his eldest son, Mr. W. E. Saunders, by whom it is still successfully maintained, and the retail department to two of his younger sons, who, however, afterwards relinquished it for other pursuits.

During the five-and-twenty years of his business life, Mr. Saunders found time for taking an active part in many other things. Besides his scientific work in Entomology and Botany, he took great interest in fruit-growing, establishing a farm of his own near the city, and becoming a zealous member of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association, of which he was a director for many years and President from 1882 to 1885. In connection with his professional work he was appointed Professor of Materia Medica in the Western University, Public Analyst for Western Ontario, and