

CORRESPONDENCE.

OCCURRENCE OF *TRIPTOGON OCCIDENTALIS* IN MANITOBA.

Sir,—About four years ago a specimen of this moth came to light one evening through an open window. I saw no more until last year, when I found two large pupæ at the foot of a white poplar tree. One of them produced the perfect insect, but the other was unfortunately a failure, and only produced a number of Tachinous flies. I also caught, attracted by light, a fine female moth which laid several eggs. Unfortunately I was unable to watch them very closely, and several hatched out, and the larvæ died. I succeeded, however, in partially rearing one on the leaves of the white poplar. This is a rough description of the larva:—Colour, polar-green. Head large and square and with an inverted v mark. Yellow or gold ring between first and second, and second and third segments. Yellowish-white stripe from anal horn, which is very small, and whitish forward to the last pair of legs. This after 3rd or 4th moult. After 5th moult, the head became yellowish-white with a pinkish tinge-horn almost disappeared; the line from the horn assumed a purplish shade; slight oblique lines on each segment. Eight pink spiracles on either side. Prolegs and claspers, pink, and above the anus a heart-shaped patch of pale bright green. Colour, whitish poplar-green, skin very rough, 2 yellow bands between first segments as before. Shortly after taking this note the larva died. From time to time I have seen a few specimens of *Macroglossa bombyliformis*, (I use the name of the English lists as I am unable to see any difference, and in any case you will know the insect I mean), but last year it and *M. fuciformis* simply swarmed on the blossom of the wild plum and wild black currant. At the same time I took two specimens of a species of *Deilephila* closely allied to *D. Galii*. This is the second species of this genus that I have taken.

As Southern Manitoba may be unknown to many of your readers, a short description of my place may be of some interest. I am some 120 miles west of Emerson, and 12 miles north of the boundary line. It is intersected by a stream running in a deep ravine, the banks of which are clothed with oak, white and black poplar, elm, birch, ash-leaved maple, willows of very many species, ash, cherries, Saskatoon *Amelanchier alnifolia*, cranberry, gooseberry, currants, plum, hazel and *Cratægus* thorn. The prairie, too, is not the generally conceived grassy sea, but is dotted with clumps of poplar, willow, etc., and with here and there patches of *Eleagnus argentea*, in prairie parlance "wolf-willow," roses, etc.

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