

THE PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

The Rev. Dr. BETHUNE, Warden of Trinity College School, Port Hope, President of the Society, took the chair at 8 o'clock, and proceeded to deliver his annual address, as follows :

GENTLEMEN : The pleasant duty once more devolves upon me of welcoming you all to our annual meeting. It is with great gratification that I do so, inasmuch as all goes well with our Society, and the reports of the council and officers, and also of the sections, record a steady progress and a continued prosperity. It is now thirty years since Mr. Saunders and I issued a circular to the collectors of insects in Canada, who were at that time very few indeed in number, and by this means obtained the names and addresses of all who were interested in Entomology. After some correspondence had taken place, it was decided to call a meeting at Toronto for the purpose of forming a Canadian Entomological Club. A meeting was accordingly held in the rooms of the Canadian Institute in Toronto, on the 16th day of April, 1863, at which nine gentlemen were present, and resolutions were drawn up for the formation of "The Entomological Society of Canada." It will interest you, no doubt, to hear the names of these pioneers of the science in this country. They were the Rev. Prof. Hincks and Prof. Croft, of the University of Toronto ; Mr. J. H. Sangster, Dr. Beverley R. Morris and James Hubbard, of Toronto ; Dr. Thos. Cowdry * and his son, Mr. H. Cowdry, of York Mills ; Mr. Saunders, of London, and myself. We had also letters of sympathy with the project from Mr. E. Billings, of the Geological Survey, Montreal ; Mr. R. V. Rogers, Kingston ; Mr. F. Reynolds, Hamilton ; Mr. B. Billings, Prescott ; Rev. V. Clementi, Peterborough ; and Mr. E. Baynes Reed, of London. These gentlemen all co-operated very heartily in the work of the Society and largely contributed to its success. From this beginning of fifteen members the Society has gone on, grown and prospered, and it has now become a large and influential body, with a well-established reputation and a recognized scientific status. It becomes us all then, and especially the younger members, to keep up the good work and to do all in our power, both individually and collectively, for the well-being and prosperity of our beloved Entomological Society of Ontario. There is an unlimited field for work in this country, both in practical and scientific entomology. The life-histories of countless insects remain to be investigated, large areas of our country have never been explored, and in some orders of insects almost nothing has been done. In some department or other, each of us may do some good work even though our opportunities may be few and our time limited.

In accordance with our long established custom it now devolves upon me to bring before you some account of the chief insect attacks of the year in this province. Among those that I referred to last year, "the Eye-spotted bud-moth" (*Tmetocera ocellana*, Schiff) Fig. 1, continues to be very injurious to apple-trees in many parts of the country. Canker-worms have been very abundant and destructive in various places. (Fig. 2 represents the male and wingless female of *Anisopteryx Vernata*.) At Ottawa, on the first of June, I observed them in vast numbers upon forest trees in the neighborhood of the city, and have since been informed that they stripped them of their foliage ; they especially attacked the elm, bass-wood and ash, but were rarely seen upon the apple, which is the usual food of the insect. At Winnipeg also, as no steps were taken to check their ravages last year, they have continued the work of destruction upon the shade trees of the city. It is much to be deplored that the municipal authorities have not taken the trouble to protect their trees and keep the insect within due bounds.



Fig. 1.

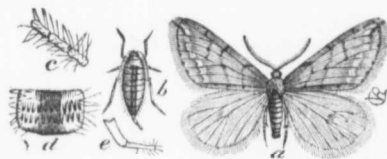


Fig. 2.

* We regret to have to record that Dr. Thomas Cowdry died on the 16th of October, 1892, at the residence of his son, Mr. E. Cowdry, Simcoe, Ont., in the 80th year of his age. Dr. Cowdry had been in poor health for some time and resided of late years in Bermuda for the sake of the genial climate. He returned to Canada in the spring and died at a good old age, much beloved and respected by all who knew him.