

possessor of a volume published in New England by Dr. Harris, under the title of "Insects Injurious to Vegetation in Massachusetts," and this, although a very useful work, only partially met the wants of the practical farmer. Dr. Fitch, State Entomologist for New York, had published his first nine reports, and was almost the only active laborer in this important department of insects injurious to agriculture, but his works were not accessible to many in this country.

In scientific Entomology but little had been done in Canada up to this period. Several catalogues of the names of insects captured in this country had appeared in the "Canadian Naturalist," the organ of the Natural History Society of Montreal, and the occurrence of several rare species of butterflies had been noted. Messrs. Wm. Couper and E. Billings, of Montreal, had also communicated some papers to the same journal urging the importance of the study of Entomology and referring to the habits of some of the pine borers and other prominent insects; but the circulation of the "Naturalist" was so limited that the information given reached but few in the community.

The Entomological Society of Canada at first had no funds to enable them to publish reports of their proceedings beyond the small sum derived from the annual fees of the members, but among these were a number of active workers, who, by careful and systematic observation and study, were rapidly accumulating stores of knowledge which were destined to be of much value in the future to the great community of farmers and horticulturists. At first the proceedings of the infant Society were published in the Canadian Journal, but soon it was felt to be most desirable, in order to give them the prominence they deserved, that the records of facts observed by the members should be published in a separate form, and early in 1867 an effort was made to obtain some assistance from the Canadian Government to aid the Society in carrying out this object; but at a meeting held on the 1st of June, 1867, a communication was presented from the Finance Minister of the United Provinces to the effect that he could not recommend any fresh grants for scientific objects, as the country was on the eve of confederation. The annual report of the Secretary presented at this meeting showed that the membership had been increased to 48. The meeting was to have been followed by a field day, but the Fenian Raid, which just then occurred, called some of the members away to their duty as volunteers, and others to the defence of their homes.