

With regard to the Society, you have already learnt, from the satisfactory Reports of the parent organization and its various branches, that it continues to go on prospering in a quiet, unostentatious way. While there has been no marked increase to our list of members during the past year, and no performance of any work of unusual importance, yet it is a matter of congratulation that we have no falling off, either in numbers or resources, to deplore. Much of the inactivity in Entomological matters that has been apparent in this country during the past year may no doubt be ascribed to the prevalent "hardness of the times," which has occasioned—even to those least affected by it—much anxiety of mind, conjoined very often with increased absorption in the cares of business, or in the labours necessary for obtaining a livelihood. As you are well aware, we have in Canada but very few persons of assured wealth who are able, as in older and richer countries, to devote their abundant leisure to literature, art or science. Consequently, the condition of things in the world about us deprives most of our members of the leisure, if not also of the inclination, requisite for the successful pursuit of Entomology in any of its various phases. Before another season opens upon us, however, we have reason to believe that the worst of the present financial storm will be over, and that renewed confidence and prosperity throughout the country will remove the gloom and dulness now oppressing almost every department of work among us. With a revival of business, we may assuredly look for a restoration of activity in scientific pursuits, and hope that our Society, in common with others of a kindred character, may be distinguished by large accessions to its numbers, and by increased work in all its departments.

Last year, at our annual meeting, I took the opportunity of calling your attention to many fields of Entomological labour that are now all but unexplored in this country. May I repeat that there is ample scope for the exertions of all our members, whether they care only to form collections of specimens, or prefer to devote their labours to the unfolding of the life histories, or the study of the classification of insects? There is plenty of work remaining to be done, even in the favourite orders of Lepidoptera and Coleoptera, to say nothing of the others that are not so generally studied or collected. It would be a valuable contribution to our store of knowledge were lists of the Canadian species of all orders of insects to be formed and presented to the Society for publication, and at the same time a revision made of those published some years ago.

But not only is there scientific work of this kind to be performed, which will require generations for its complete achievement; there comes before us at the present moment an extraordinary object for accomplishment during the approaching winter. I allude to the representation of the Society by means of a collection of Canadian insects at the approaching Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia. You will all, I think, agree with us in the belief that it is a matter of great importance to the Society that it should be brought in this way before the notice of the world, and that it cannot but be of some benefit to the Dominion that its natural history, as well as its industrial resources, should be fully exhibited. The Council of the Agricultural and Arts Association have already, on our behalf, brought the matter before the Commissioners appointed by the Government, and we understand that a sum of money will be provided to aid us in the satisfactory performance of the work. To gather together a fitting collection of insects, and to prepare them for exhibition, is a task that will strain to the utmost all the resources of the Society. We have commenced the work, relying upon the co-operation of you all, and now we trust that every one will help us by the loan of specimens, and any other aid that can be afforded. The Society is committed to the task; let us see to it that there be no failure.

Before turning from matters immediately affecting our Society, I may mention that our periodical, THE CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, continues to be maintained with undiminished efficiency and interest, being largely supported and contributed to by our Entomological brethren of the United States; and that the last Annual Report presented by the Society to the Legislature has been received with more than usual marks of favour by the Press, scientific, agricultural and political, not only in Canada and the neighbouring States, but also in England. We have been naturally gratified to observe that, in many instances, copious extracts have been made from its pages, and even a whole article reprinted in an English scientific magazine.

Having referred thus far to our Society, and the things that especially concern it, let me now say a few words regarding Entomological matters in general. At the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in August last at Detroit,

Michigan, the general session. Its sessions, they were presided over by entomologists, and were very interesting. Our own Society I much regret that I could not attend, as I fully intended to do so. I have published in THE CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST here. Next year there will be an opportunity of access for Canadian entomologists to avail themselves of attending the session. From past experience, more valuable information can be obtained in your country.

During the season, very startling and unexpected ravages throughout the Province, to the assistance that his work in this portion of this Province and quality. The work has been rapidly extending throughout the neighbourhood of London, and its wake, that where it has been wrought but a narrow path (*Caloptenus spretus*) has left a frightful scale of devastation by the millions, upon the whole, during the past year, a great power for evil. Among the most noticeable wrought much damage to the United States and *Sylvatica*), which trees in many parts of the Province may soon become a great agriculturalists. The But I need not detail the various foes, which are so far from being exterminated.

As I mentioned in my report to the President for five years, and consideration so now make way for the interests of our Society; beg, therefore, to read at the same time, I Society at heart, and advance its best interests. Again offering:

Trinity College School
Port Hope, S