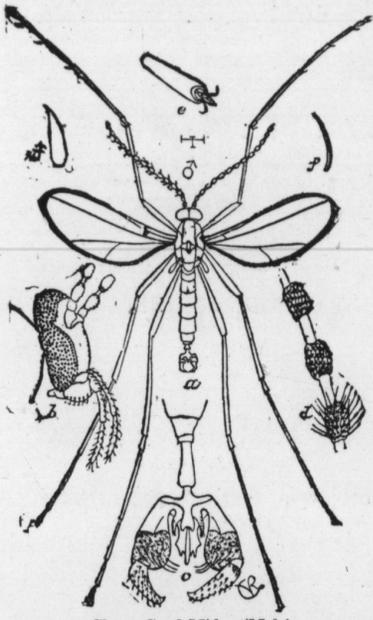
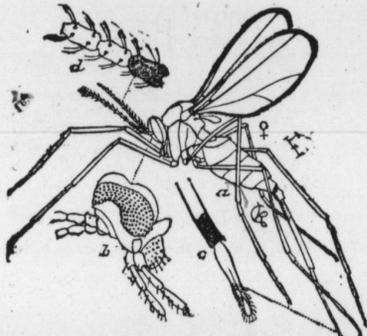


**The Clover-Seed Midge.**

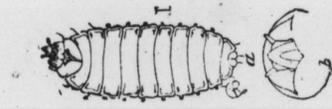
(*Oecidomyia leguminicola*, Linter.)



Clover-Seed Midge (Male).



Clover-Seed Midge (Female).



Clover-Seed Midge (Larva).  
(Figures very much magnified.)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,  
Ottawa, June 1st, 1886.

SIR,—The large amount of loss every year to farmers and the Dominion at large, due to the ravages of the Clover-Seed Midge, renders it necessary that some concerted efforts should be made by the growers of clover-seed throughout the country, to obviate this loss.

Mr. F. W. Glen, M.P. for South Ontario, who, from his business connections, has exceptional means of forming a true estimate of this loss, considers that it is at least \$1,000,000 annually.

There is an abundance of evidence pointing to the fact that, if the clover be removed from the fields before the first brood of midge matures, a good crop of seed may be secured.

Mr. T. Farrow, M.P. for East Huron, who has studied this matter for some years, gave valuable evidence, corroborative of this fact, before the Committee on Immigration and Colonization at its last meeting.

The life history of this insect is not yet satisfactorily worked out; but the general facts of what is known, are given in the following extract, taken from my report to Minister of Agriculture for 1885, which I take the liberty of transmitting to you:—

“The Midge has again proved itself a most serious tax on the farmers throughout Central and Southwestern Ontario, where clover was once grown for seed. The only instances where any seed has been reaped are where, instead of allowing the clover to stand in the field till the end of June, it has been fed off by cattle and sheep till the beginning or middle of June, and then left to go to seed with the autumn crop. There are apparently two broods of the Midge in Western Canada; part of the second brood goes over the winter in the pulp state and hatches in the beginning of May. The eggs of this brood are laid in the forming heads of the clover plant, and complete their larval growth about the end of June. These then leave the heads of clover, and go into the ground to complete their transformations, the perfect flies emerging about the middle of July. These again produce the second brood, which destroys the fall crop of clover seed, and part of which emerges in September and part not until the next spring. The verdict of all the growers who have tried the experiment now seems to be that two crops cannot be secured, and to get any seed at all, the first crop must be pastured until the beginning, and not later than the middle of June. In this way the minute larvae of the flies which are to lay the eggs for

the second brood, are eaten by the cattle at the same time as the clover, and destroyed. It is quite apparent, that if all growers would adopt this plan, that much good would be done; and if some fall dressing for the land can be devised to destroy the hibernating brood, we may hope before long, to get rid of this injurious insect. Fresh gas-lime, if obtainable in sufficient quantities, would undoubtedly destroy the midge, but the supply of this is limited. Experiments will have to be tried until something is discovered. Late fall ploughing would probably have a good effect. In the Ontario Agricultural returns we find:—“There is a remarkable concurrence of testimony from experienced farmers, that a yield of clover seed can no longer be depended upon with any degree of certainty where two crops are cut in the season.”

“In this section of the country the clover seed is an entire failure again this year, except where it was pastured until the middle of June, when it yielded from three to four bushels to the acre.”—JABEL ROBINSON, Middlemarch, Ont.

“Clover seed has been generally injured by the clover-seed midge here, the only crops being when the first growth has been allowed to seed after pasturing late in the spring.”—R. J. DOYLE, Owen Sound.

“Respecting the raising of clover seed, the system of pasturing and turning off early in June is the only chance we have for seed now.”—ROBERT WILKIE, Master of the Dominion Grange, Blenheim, Ont.

Should you be in possession of further information on this subject, or should anything come under your notice at any time, I shall be obliged if you will communicate with me, and I shall be particularly pleased to hear of the results of any treatment you may adopt for combatting this injurious insect.

Letters and small packages containing specimens for examination or identification may be sent FREE by mail if addressed as below.

JAMES FLETCHER,  
Entomologist,  
Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

**Ontario Provincial Grange.**

We call especial attention to a very able circular from the Secretary of the Ontario Provincial Grange, which was mislaid when first received, hence the delay in its publication:—

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, ONT. PRO. GRANGE,  
MEAFORD, March 11th, 1886.

To the Secretary of Grange No. —:—  
DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—Herewith you will find report of Executive Committee for the year 1885; also that of the Auditors, along with statements of receipts and expenditure duly certified by them.

By reference to these statements you will see that, while there is a falling off in the payments by divisions, there is a considerable increase in those from subordinate Granges. You will also note that the present indebtedness of the Provincial Grange over and above its cash assets is \$449.69, of which all but \$50 is owing to the Dominion Grange for arrears on dues. This seems a large amount, and yet, since the organization of the Provincial Grange, larger sums have been paid for single quarter's dues to the Dominion Grange. Such being the case, you will see that it only requires a little earnest effort on the part of members to place the Provincial once more on good footing. It will not do to fold our hands and say we are paying too much to the Dominion Grange for the amount of benefit derived from it. To secure a reduction of those payments, or any other desirable change in the Constitution, requires due notice and the sanction of the Dominion Grange; but that body is composed of delegates from the Provincial Granges; hence any course of action the latter may agree upon must be adopted by the former, if those delegates prove true to the interests they represent.

Owing to the extent of the Dominion, and the varied character and wants of the people, it is impossible for those in one Province to understand the feelings and requirements of another. Matters of local legislation, which are deemed of the utmost importance to us in Ontario, and which we can intelligently discuss among ourselves, would prove repugnant to the inhabitants of Quebec and other Provinces; while on the other hand, questions which they consider of vital importance are matters of indifference to us; hence the organization of Provincial Granges for the purpose of enabling the members in the various Provinces to meet more readily than was possible for a body constituted as is the Dominion Grange, and to discuss those questions in which they each had a particular interest.

That the establishment of a Provincial Grange has been of great advantage to this Province few will question. In the matter of market fees alone, which owe their abolition largely to its influence, there has been saved to the farmers in one year a tenfold greater sum than the whole cost of the Provincial Grange since its organization, to say nothing of the vindication of principles involved; however, it is not what we have done that should so much interest us, as what is before us to do. Aside from the pecuniary, social and educational advantages to be gained through our organization, there are just now a number of matters of legislation, which are of deep interest to the farmers throughout the Province, on which the Provincial Grange can better and more effectively represent their views than can any other body. Foremost among those questions is reduction in County Councils.

It is now several years since this subject was first brought to your attention, and from time to time deputations from the Provincial Grange have waited upon the Government respecting

this matter, all of which have met with a most courteous reception, and have been listened to with apparent interest while stating their case; but when through have been quietly snuffed out with the question:—“How would you propose to reduce them?” From this it will be seen that the first step towards securing this reform is to satisfy ourselves what we require in the place of the present councils, and to do this we must acquaint ourselves fully with the duties performed by those bodies; second, how they perform them; third, what part of those duties can advantageously be dispensed with; fourth, what number of individuals could perform them equally as well; and lastly, what is the best method of electing them?

Next to County Councils comes the Assessment Act, the provisions of which are most unfair to farmers, when compared with other classes; but here, as with the former, it is useless to go to the Government until we have fully decided upon what we require. It is not enough to know that the exemption of mortgages, company stocks, official salaries, etc., from taxation, while every dollar we have invested in our business is liable, is a great wrong to us. We must be able to point out the amendments we wish for, be prepared to compel their adoption.

Another matter requiring special attention from the Grange just now is the position of the medical profession. Naturally we would suppose that a class largely educated at the public expense, and having already the power to charge and collect whatever fees suit them, would be content with their advantages; but such is not the case, as each session of the Legislature finds them applying for further privileges.

It has become customary to laud the school system of Ontario as far superior to that of any other country. And yet many defects will present themselves to the mind of every thoughtful Patron—defects that cannot, as is customary with the school authorities, be charged to the ignorance and selfishness of parents and trustees. The whole system should be carefully studied in every Grange, and compared with the experience of the past—by this means we shall be able to judge whether the changes that are continually being made are really improvements or simply means to gradually withdraw from the people the power to deal with educational matters, and place it in the hands of the teaching profession.

These are matters pressing for immediate attention, which can be more effectually dealt with by the Provincial Grange than through any other medium.

Reference has already been made to the increase in reports and dues from Subordinate Granges making returns direct to the Provincial Grange. This direct connection between Subordinate and Provincial Granges appears to work most satisfactorily, as by it many delays in communicating with members are avoided. Under the existing system Granges frequently complain that important matter, such as the A. W., etc., never reaches them, but if communication were made direct from the Provincial Grange this could not occur.

As the constitution now stands those Granges not connected with divisions, or located in dormant Divisions, have no representation, notwithstanding some of them pay more dues than whole divisions. This is a matter that should be remedied, and it might be worth while to inquire whether the Order would not be strengthened by allowing each subordinate Grange to be represented in the Provincial Grange. The objection to this is the expense attending the meeting of so many delegates; but this is not at all an insurmountable difficulty. When the mountain would not come to Mahomet, Mahomet went to the mountain. And, acting on the same plan, Provincial Granges can be carried very near to the subordinate Granges.

Previous to the formation of the Ontario Provincial Grange, the question of organizing two or more Provincial Granges in this Province had been considered, and the first subject discussed at our organization meeting was this proposition, which was disposed of for the time by the following resolution:—

“Moved by Bro. R. Wilkie, seconded by Bro. S. McCall, that whereas the delegates at this meeting have come here under the impression, generally, that but one Provincial Grange was to be formed at this time, be it resolved, therefore, that we form but one Provincial Grange at this first meeting—carried.”

This resolution evidently contemplates the formation of other Provincial Granges in the Province at some future meeting; and the question is whether the time for such contemplated action has not come. By the establishment of three Provincial Granges, known as Eastern, Centre and Western, we would furnish an opportunity for each subordinate Grange to be represented at a trifling expense; and delegates returning direct to their individual Granges from general meetings, where the questions already referred to and other kindred matters had been discussed, would carry home with them much greater zeal for the work than can be expected when all the information they have is received second-hand, and after long intervals.

All these questions and others that may arise should be discussed with a view to benefitting ourselves as farmers and members of the Grange. In nothing should individual interest be allowed to prevail over the general good. Associated effort is now the prevailing principle in everything. Turn where you will we meet combinations: all trades and professions have them, even the laborers, who in token of their power have compelled the Government to desist from giving assistance to immigration, thus lessening the competition in the labor market, so that while receiving greatly reduced prices for our produce, we are compelled to continue paying wages out of all proportion to the returns from our investments.

At the Executive Committee meeting terminating on the 5th inst., it was decided it would be

impossible to hold a session of the Provincial Grange until towards the end of the year; but the Committee presented to the Government all questions upon which they were authorized to act by the last meeting of the Grange. It now remains for the various Granges to go earnestly to work to influence the Legislature through the members representing their districts. This can be best accomplished by passing resolutions embodying their views on the different subjects, and sending them to their member, with an intimation that the Grange expects him to advocate those views on the floor of the House.

There will also be time to carefully consider such amendments as may be thought requisite in the Grange Constitution. Those also should be put in the form of a resolution, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Dominion Grange not later than the 1st of June next, it being necessary to give at least six months' notice of proposed changes before the meeting at which they are to be considered.

The new A. W. has been sent to all Division Grange Secretaries whose reports and dues have been sent up to the close of 1885; hence any subordinate Grange which has reported and paid dues to its division for the year, but has not received the password, should at once make inquiry respecting the delay.

Out of the thirty-five Divisions in this Province supposed to be in good working condition, but twenty-four have yet made their full number of reports. Some Divisions show very few Granges as reporting, though to judge from their meetings there must be a good many working within their jurisdiction. Subordinate Granges have a very important interest in seeing that the Divisions with which they are connected are properly conducted, for as at present constituted they have to depend upon them for all information respecting the progress of the Order.

The Executive Committee have ordered that four copies of this circular be sent to each Grange Secretary in Ontario whose address can be obtained; consequently, if any fail to receive it, it will be the result of miscarriage in the mail, or because they have failed to get their names entered upon the official list. It is hoped, however, that all will receive them, and that the matters contained therein will be carefully considered and discussed, with a view to increasing the efficiency and usefulness of the Grange.

Patrons everywhere, it now rests with you whether the Grange you have espoused is to be the means in your hands of fulfilling the Declaration of Principles which you endorsed when you became members of the Order! Read over these principles at your first meeting, and say whether there is anything contained therein that will not prove advantageous to you. Read them to your neighbor farmer and his family, and ask him and them to join the Grange, and help you and the present members to work out those principles. The chances are one hundred to one that your neighbor has never heard the objects of the Grange explained. Do not wait and pine for some big lecturer to come and talk for an hour or so, and have to wonder after he is gone what he was talking about. You have it all boiled down in that Declaration. Is your Grange dormant? Find out the cause. Go round and see the members, or, if you have not time, send your wife—the trip will do her good. If you can't talk, read them that Declaration of Principles; probably it will be news to them, and they may say we don't stick to it. Tell them to come and help us stick to it. Don't take no for an answer until your Grange is working, and, once working, make it so interesting and useful as well, that the community will feel they cannot do without it. All this is possible, and not only possible but desirable in the public interest.

There should be a good working Grange in every rural school section in Ontario. We complain of the extortions of railway companies, of our interests being overlooked by Governments, of monopolies of all kinds that fatten at our expense. Is it wise to rest with complaining when the remedy is in our own hands? Other classes do not so act. Take the Knights of Labour. Does a railway oppress them? Every employee of the road is ordered out on strike, and is supported until the road comes to terms. Does some monopolist manufacturer act contrary to their views? He and his goods are boycotted until he is glad to beg for mercy. They petition the Government for or against a certain course, and the Government grants their petition. And how do they accomplish all this? Simply by deciding upon a course and acting together as one man; and the Grange, if it is to accomplish what it contemplates, must act unitedly.

Brother Secretaries, let us see that our Granges are doing their work thoroughly; let us spare no effort to make our meetings interesting; let us urge upon the members the necessity of attending meetings promptly, and each bringing at least one new member within the coming quarter; let us urge the necessity for holding picnics and open meetings, and visiting neighboring Granges; let us do all our business promptly, and urge the same upon our fellow-members, and we shall never again have to record the postponement of the Provincial and Grange meeting for lack of funds. Fraternally yours,

A. GIFFORD,  
Sec. O.P. Grange.

“The doctor said he'd put me on my feet again in two weeks.” “Well, didn't he do it?” “He did, indeed. I had to sell my horse and buggy to foot his bill.” “And you've been footing it ever since?” “Precisely.”

**Grey Division Grange, No. 2.**

THIS Grange meets on Thursday, 8th July next at Chatsworth. We hope that there will be a large attendance—that the deliberations will be pleasant and profitable.