

Our large and important crops of cereals have been almost entirely free from insect pests, but this experience has not by any means been universal. In the mother country much consternation has been caused of late by the sudden appearance of the Hessian Fly in the wheat fields in considerable force, so that very serious injury has occurred in many quarters. When first noticed, specimens of the infested grain were submitted to Miss Eleanor A. Ormerod, Consulting Entomologist to the Royal Agricultural Society, who at once divined the cause, found the linseed-like chrysalis in the wheat stalks, and promptly suggested the usual remedies for this trouble, advice which, if persistently followed, will no doubt soon reduce the numbers of the insect to about their normal proportion. Mr. Whitehead also has been actively engaged in investigating this important subject and in disseminating information among farmers.

Having been absent in Europe during the spring and early summer months, I have been unable to give the usual attention to Entomological subjects. While in England I had the privilege of seeing several fine collections of insects, but none gave me more pleasure in inspection than that of the immortal Linnæus, the result of whose painstaking work is carefully preserved in the library of the Linnæan Society. Through the kindness of Dr. James Murie, the librarian, I was permitted to inspect this interesting cabinet, where every specimen bears evidence of having been mounted and named by this great master in Natural History. One could not help dwelling in thought on the marvellous progress which has attended the study of natural science since the master mind of this wonderful genius was brought to bear on the simplification of its nomenclature.

Every facility was also afforded me for examining the marvellously complete collections of insects in the natural history department of the British Museum, in Kensington, under the kind guidance of Messrs. Butler and Kirby. Both these gentlemen did all in their power to make my visits to that institution both pleasant and profitable, and showed me many kindnesses which will never be forgotten. The collections of Butterflies here are especially wonderful in their completeness. Take for instance the species composing the genera *Pieris* and *Colias*, and beginning with the plain ground color of white or yellow, one can trace the black bordering of the wings through all the different gradations from the faintest marginal outline to the heaviest and widest bands, and the transi-