

there seems to be but one method of subduing it, and that is to starve it out by ceasing to grow clover for a year or two, a large proportion of the larvæ may be destroyed by cutting the clover earlier than usual, just as it is coming into bloom, when being only partially developed most of them would perish. The greater danger arises from the possibility of their being distributed by the use of infested clover seed. The insect passes the winter either in the larval or pupal state, and in both of these conditions is often found amongst clover seed, and if sown with the seed the insect is placed amid conditions most favourable for its development. Seedsmen should carefully examine their seed before offering it for sale, and farmers should exercise similar caution before purchasing. The insects are very small but are much larger than the individual seeds, and if a small quantity of the clover seed is passed through a fine sieve these insects, if present, will be found along with the coarser weed seeds with which clover seed is so often contaminated.

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The maple Egerian known also as "the legged maple borer" *Agarica aceris* has prevailed during the past year in the neighbourhood of London to an alarming extent, to the serious injury of some of our shade trees. These insects which pass the winter in the larval state under the bark of the maple trees change to chrysalids early in June, and about the middle of that month they protrude themselves from the bark to the extent of about half an inch, when in a very short time the mature insect escapes, leaving the empty chrysalis behind it. This is a very pretty clear-winged moth, resembling a wasp, which when its wings are spread will measure about three quarters of an inch across. The transparent wings are adorned with bluish-black markings, the head is orange, the thorax yellow, and the abdomen bluish black banded with golden yellow. The female lays her eggs on the bark of the trees, preferring the red maple *Acer rubrum*, although the other varieties of maple are also more or less affected. In a few days small larvæ hatch from the eggs, which penetrate through the bark and feed upon the inner portion and sapwood of the tree, making an irregular cavity which is packed with the castings of the larvæ mixed with minute fragments of wood. When full grown it is about three quarters of an inch long, with a small yellow head, and a white or yellowish white body, which is darker on the hinder segments. Where the larvæ are safely lodged under the bark no remedy but the knife will reach them, but the moths may be prevented from laying their eggs by coating the bark with a mixture of soap and strong solution of washing soda, the mixture being made about the consistence of ordinary paint, and applied to the trees in the middle of June.

Within the past two or three years Paris green mixed with water in the proportion of a teaspoonful to a pailful of water has been recommended as a remedy for the codling moth, the mixture being freely applied to the apple trees with a syringe or force pump soon after the fruit has set. The results of experiments conducted during the past season go far towards establishing the value of this remedy, the number of wormy apples having been materially lessened on the trees so treated. In my own experiments where the mixture was applied to alternate trees, the proportion of wormy fruit in some instances on the trees syringed seemed to be nearly the same as on the adjoining trees which were not treated; the fruit on both being less wormy than usual, while in other instances there was a very unusual freedom from the apple-worm. Other experimenters claim far more decided results. So promising a measure, where so much is at stake, well deserves a most extensive trial. The mixture should be applied while the fruit is quite small and before the stem is bent with its weight, then as the eye or calyx of the fruit on which the codling moth usually deposits her eggs points upwards, it will more readily catch some portion of the spray. A very minute quantity lodged in the little cavity and drying there would leave a trace of Paris green sufficient to destroy the newly-hatched larvæ as it begins to eat its way into the fruit.

The meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was held this year at Minneapolis, where I had the honour to represent our Society. The attendance of entomologists, although good, was scarcely so large as last year. Since the adoption of the new Constitution, whereby the sub-section of Entomology has been merged into the section of Biology, the entomologists have greatly felt the need of opportunities of bringing up for informal discussion many questions suggested by the experience of those present, matters which could not well be brought before the general session. To

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