

of beetles known as Carabidæ, all of whom devour other insects.' This species, *Lebia grandis*, is there said to be rare in Ontario. The first examples of this insect which I remember capturing were taken last year at sugar when trapping moths, and I believe it is the only species belonging to that family which I have ever taken in this manner; several of them were found feeding on the sweet liquid on dark nights about 10 o'clock. Early this fall I received a letter from Mr. W. E. Coldwell, of Constance, Ont., announcing the appearance in large numbers of a friendly insect, which was devouring the larvæ of the Potato Beetle, and proving a very effectual check on their increase. This letter was accompanied by specimens of the insect, which, to my gratification, I found on examination were examples of *Lebia grandis*. A few weeks later a farmer in this neighborhood called on me with the information that he had observed large numbers of an insect which he had not seen before, devouring the larvæ of the Potato Beetle. He brought no specimens with him, but from his description of the insect I have every reason to believe that it was the same *Lebia*. Since then I have occasionally met with examples of this friendly visitor hidden amongst the leaves of plants, a common place of resort for it during periods of inactivity.

The Hessian Fly, *Cecidomyia destructor*, which appeared in force in many counties of our Province last year, and which it was feared might again become a serious trouble, has happily almost disappeared. I have not heard of any serious loss from this pest during the past season. Should any of you desire, at any time, information in reference to the life history and habits of this insect, I would refer you to a very practical paper in our last annual report, by the Rev. C. J. S. Bethune; also to a more elaborate paper by the same distinguished Entomologist in our report for 1871.

The Cabbage Butterfly, *Pieris rapæ*, still continues its ravages, but does not seem to be quite so abundant this year as it was last. Water heated to near the boiling point has been used with success in destroying the larva, without injuring the cabbage. Strong decoctions of Cayenne pepper and Smartweed (*Polygonum*—?) have also been spoken highly of; but I look forward with far more confidence to a remedy provided by nature which is gradually making itself felt. I allude to that tiny little friendly parasitic fly, *Pteromalus puparum*, which is rapidly increasing in our midst. A few days since, while watching some of the full-grown larvæ of the Cabbage Butterfly which were feeding on Nasturtium leaves, I was much gratified in witnessing the method of attack which this parasite