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Mr James Myles

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IV. *Notes on the destructive effects of Beetles on certain Young Plantations.* By Mr JAMES MYLES, Factor to Mr Speirs of Elderslie. Communicated by Mr GORRIE.

The plantations chiefly attacked are Wraes, Kirkton, and Borthwickfield—the former having been planted three years, and the latter two years. The plants in Wraes are so much injured that nothing can be done to save them, and cattle have been turned into the plantation. In Kirkton more than one-half of the plants are killed, while in Borthwickfield the number destroyed is considerably less than the half. The beetles attack the plants first at the base of the stem, eating and then puncturing the bark upwards. The plants destroyed are Scots fir, larch, spruce, Austrian and Weymouth pines, and other coniferous trees, and a few specimens of beech, birch, oak, and mountain ash. The beetles occur in great profusion, and Mr Myles gave a description of what he had done to diminish their numbers. Three boys were able to collect for some time between 1300 to 1400 beetles each day in the plantation, and they had so far diminished now that they could only gather 600 or 700 a day. Mr Myles sent specimens of the beetles and plants injured by them. Mr W. R. M'Nab, who had examined the insects, finds three different species—viz., *Hylurgus piniperda*, *Hylobius Abietis*, and *Otiorhynchus notatus*.

V. *Notes of an Excursion from Simla to the Valleys of the Giri, Pabur, and Tonse Rivers, tributaries of the Jumna.* By HUGH CLEGHORN, M.D.

In regard to the first or most western stream (Giri), he observed that the valley is low, warm, fertile, and dotted with scattered cottages; the mountain slopes are bare. The principal trees observed in addition to the pines mentioned were—*Melia sempervirens*, *Pistacia integerrima*, *Ficus religiosa*, *Putranjiva Roxburghii*, *Populus ciliata*, *Salix*, *Alnus nipalensis*, *Pyrus*, *Cerasus puddum*, *Xanthoxylon hastile*, and *Cotoneaster microphylla*, carpeting the rocks. The crops are wheat, barleys, several millets, til (*Sesamum orientale*), tobacco, opium poppy, and various pulses (*Vicia*,