

If correct in the opinion that the greater part of this injury where I have observed it is due to these insects, the matter of applications for their destruction becomes much easier, as we then have to deal with insects exposed to destructive liquids, or to destruction with "hopper dozers" and similar contrivances.

My argument in brief is this: "Silver-top" may be produced by a number of different insects—a point already made by Mr. Fletcher. It may result from the action of insects within the sheath, or from puncturing and sucking of sap by insects that operate from the outside. In my own observations but a very small percentage of affected stems have contained insects of any kind within the sheath, and many show clearly evidence of puncture from without.

The species most abundant in the affected fields, and known to puncture grasses, are mainly *Jassidae*. These insects are sufficiently abundant, and their habits entirely in accord with the injuries noted. No other insects of sufficient abundance, and with habits to make it probable that they could cause the injury, have been found in the silver-topped grass.

I conclude, then, from all the observations made so far, that for the locality studied, Homoptera (mainly *Jassidae*) are the principal causes of the disease. The insects are open to general attack, and Silver-top should be prevented by their destruction.

[The attention of Canadian observers is invited to this important subject. The appearance known as "Silver-top" has increased enormously in some districts during the last few years. In many cases examined the cause could not be ascertained.—ED. C. E.]

SOME RARE LEPIDOPTERA TAKEN NEAR MONTREAL.

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Thecla lacta, Edw. I was fortunate enough to take a female of this rare and beautiful butterfly on the top of Beloeil Mt., 22 miles east of Montreal, on May 24th, 1888. I again visited the place on the same date in 1889 and 1890, but on both occasions the weather was too cloudy for anything to be on the wing.

Thecla acadica, Edw. I took two specimens at St. Rose, July 7th, 1889, flying over a field of oats, among which there was a quantity of wild mustard in flower, and the butterflies visited the latter occasionally, but only for a moment, and then dashed off.

Thecla strigosa, Harr. Very rare some seasons, and rather common others. Flies in the beginning of July, and frequents the flowers of *Asclepias* and *Apocynum*.

Pamphila leonardus, Harr. One specimen (♀) taken on the flowers of Golden-rod, September 7th, 1890. The first I have taken.

Dilophonota ello, Linn. I have been given a specimen of this "visitor from the south," that was found in the grass on McGill College grounds about the end of September, 1886. This is an interesting capture, as the date agrees exactly with captures in Ontario at London, Hamilton, and Dundas, already recorded in the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST.

Crocota Treatii, Grote. One specimen taken at rest on the trunk of an oak, July 6th, 1889.

Dryocampa rubicunda, Fabr. This is recorded as being very rare in this province (CAN. ENT. VI., 220; VII., 109); but since the introduction of electric lights in our streets a number have been taken every season.

Thyatira pudens, Guen. One specimen found at rest on a lamp post, May 13th, 1889.

Charadra deridens, Guen. I bred a specimen of this moth Feb. 21st, 1889. The larva was found on oak, and agreed exactly with the "unidentified larva" described in Vol. XVIII., p. 124 of the CAN. ENT. Last September I found two larvæ on white birch, but not having enough boxes with me to keep all the species of larvæ separate, I put a *Noto-donta* larva in the same box, and when I reached home I found that both my *deridens* had been bitten to death.

Syneda Alleni, Grote. Two specimens, 1889, one taken at Cote St. Antoine, flying at noon, June 30th; the other in the city, about the middle of July, by light.

Marmopteryx strigularia, Minot. I took this species in large numbers in a maple grove near St. Therese, on August 31st, 1890. They seemed to be confined to this place, as in the fields surrounding the wood none were seen, but as soon as the woods were entered they flew up from the trees by dozens to settle again a few yards off on other maple trunks. When at rest the wings were invariably closed over the back like those of a butterfly, showing the beautiful marbling of the under surface.