

NATURE AND SCIENCE.

Destructive Insects.

Success in vegetable culture requires protection of the growing crops from destructive insects. But the farmer has friends as well as foes in the insect world...

All are familiar with an ugly-looking, dark-colored, fast-running bug which lives under loose stones and pieces of boards. It is hatched from an egg which the old bug had deposited in the ground...

The tiger-beetle which we see in a fair summer day, running and flying in the trodden paths, is another friend of the farmer. This is a spotted and striped-winged insect, and is carnivorous to the last degree.

The mason-wasp is another pitiless insect murderer. It lays its eggs at the bottom of little clay cells, and there commences laying up provision for the future young of spiders, caterpillars and canker-worms...

The lady bug is also very useful to the farmer. The larva of this beautiful insect, swallow in great numbers plant-lice which exhaust the juices from the tender apple tree and the young leaves of the peach tree.

The dragon-fly should be honored in history for its war upon other annoying insects. It consumes immense numbers of that little pest, the mosquito, every summer. And there is a fly resembling the wasp, which destroys its insect in the egg.

One may speak the praises of the mole as the toad as allies of the farmer in their war against the destructive insects; but in this regard they are the least useful in this regard.

It has been known, in a single hour, to carry to their nests forty caterpillars! The swallow, while on the wing, destroys more apple moths and millers than could be counted. The common robin slaughters more grubs in the months of May and June, while feeding its young, than David slew Philistines in his whole life.

Electric Light.

Scribner has an article about the electric light with which many of the streets in Paris are lighted, of which we give a portion. It would seem as if this will in time supersede gas and oil...

The following is the extract from Scribner: "Several of the wider streets and squares, and about forty workshops in and about Paris, are now regularly lighted by electricity."

AMERICAN EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.—A report of the Bureau of Statistics shows that in the year ending June 30, 1878, the exports of mowers and reapers amounted to \$1,498,500...

QUININE AND ARSENIC.—On the basis of many Ague remedies in market, and are the last resort of physicians and people who know no better medicine to employ for this distressing complaint.

befell mankind. In noting its influence upon labor, we must not forget the 20,000 or more mechanics employed in our sewing-machine factories, and the thousands of others engaged in mining and making the iron, cutting and sawing the lumber, and in transporting and preparing these raw materials for the machines and their cases...

It is but a little while since a metropolitan paper of high rank pointed to the shoe business as furnishing a forcible illustration of the disastrous competition of machinery with men. The truth is that while within twenty years, not less than eighty-five per cent. of the work done on factory boots and shoes has been turned over to machinery...

The Little Shoes Did it.

A young man who had been reclaimed from the vice of intemperance was called upon to tell how he was led to give up drink. He arose, but looked for a moment confused. All he could say was, "The little shoes did it."

Does Machinery Rob the Laborer.

The complaint that machinery robs the laborer of his only capital is entirely unfounded. Machinery never lessened the amount of work to be done, though it has constantly changed the character of the work.

When Walter Hunt invented his sewing-machine in 1833, his wife protested that it would throw all the sewing women out of employment, and persuaded him to suppress it.

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