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MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 27.

OUR SHADE TREES.

Our shade trees, along the lines of our Springfield streets, compose a very important local feature, and all will be interested in anything pertaining to their preservation. Therefore our readers will be glad to know that, upon the invitation of Mr. Cole, at 472 South Limestone street, Mr. W. M. King, associate editor of the Farm and Fireside, visited his grounds, and found the soft maple trees badly damaged. An insect was found adhering to the limbs and upon the branches a cotton-like substance. Mr. King procured and promptly forwarded to Prof. C. V. Riley, Chief of the Entomological Bureau of the Department of Agriculture, specimens of the insect, together with the cottony substance, and received the following reply:

Your favor of the 15th inst. has come to hand.

The insect you enclose is the Cottony Maple scale (*Pulvinaria innumerabilis*, Rathv.) which the past year was very destructive to maples in many sections of the country so as to attract general attention. A full and illustrated article on this insect, by Prof. Riley, is in his last annual report (Annual Report U. S. Department of Agriculture for 1884, p. 350,) and the mode of preparing and applying kerosene emulsion which is by far the most reliable remedy for scale insects is also explained there (p. 328 and p. 330.)

Among the specimens of Pulvinaria you sent, there were also some pupa skins of a lady bird (*Exchomus bioulnerus*) which is one of the natural enemies of scale insects.

As it is important that immediate steps should be taken to prevent further damage to the shade trees, such as maple, elm, linden, sycamore and others, we publish below a full description, together with the proper remedies required for the prompt destruction of the insect referred to:

The Cottony Maple Scale.

(*Pulvinaria innumerabilis*, Rathvon.)

ORDER HEMIPTERA; FAMILY COCCIDAE.

This scale insect stands prominent among the species which have been especially abundant during the past summer. Circumstances appear to have been particular favorable to its development, and, although it does not spread rapidly, its general appearance this season has caused considerable alarm in many States. It was sent to us during the spring and summer by correspondents in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Missouri. For the past thirty years it has attracted considerable attention as damaging shade trees, particularly the maples, in different parts of the country, occurring in extraordinary abundance from time to time, and then almost lost sight of for several years. It is more particularly a Northern insect, and although it is often numerous in Virginia and Missouri, we have never received it from, nor heard of its occurrence in the extreme Southern States.

FOOD-PLANTS.

The ordinary food-plant of this species of bark-louse is the Soft or Silver maple (*Acer dascayrpum*), but previous to 1879 we had not only found it upon the other species of Maple, but also upon grape-vine, Osage orange, Oak, Linden, Elm, Hackberry, Sycamore, Rose, Currant, and Spindle tree (*Euonymus*). In addition to these plants, Mr. Putnam mentions Locust, Sumac, wild Grape, Box-elder, Beech, and Willow. With regard to the specific identity of the individuals from all these different plants, there is still room for doubt, though in 1875 we successfully transferred the species from Maclura and Vitis to Quercus. We wrote Mr. Putnam, under date of March 25, 1879: "In all essential external characters they are identical, and, until they are shown to be different by the character and arrangement of the secretory pores in the anal plate of the female, they must be assumed to be identical. It is this critical comparative study which would greatly increase the value of your work." This study Mr. Putnam failed to make, and summed up his account simply with the words: "I do not feel fully prepared to agree with Mr. Riley and Miss Smith in regarding all the *Pulvinaria* found on the approaching exclusion of the male. The posterior end of the scale is in this manner raised up, and the perfect insect backs out with its wings held close to the sides of its body.

Meanwhile the female larvæ have been undergoing but slight changes of form. They grow larger and also broader across the posterior portion, but remain flat and with but a slight indication of a dorsal carina. Just before the appearance of the adult males, they undergo another molt and change in color from a uniform pale-yellow to a somewhat deeper yellow with deep red markings.

The males make their appearance from August 1 to September 15, issuing most abundantly about the middle of the former month, and their life is short, seldom exceeding two or three days. They copulate with the females and then die. The latter, soon after the disappearance of the males, gradually lose their bright-red markings and change to a deep-brown color. They grow more convex, and the dorsal layer of wax becomes thicker and more cracked. Before the falling of the leaves they migrate to the twigs and there fix themselves, generally on the underside. After feeding as long as the sap flows, they become torpid and remain in this condition until spring.

At the opening of spring the eggs develop with great rapidity and distend the body greatly, causing it to become convex instead of flat. The color is now yellowish, marked with dark brown, and the insect now absorbs sap with great rapidity and ejects drops of honey-dew. From the middle of May to the first of June the egg laying commences. The eggs are deposited at the end of the body, in a nest of waxen fibres secreted from pores situated around the anus. This nest is attached to the posterior ventral portion of the body, and adheres somewhat to the twig. As the eggs are protruded into the waxy mass the posterior portion of the body is gradually raised up until it often reaches an angle of forty-five degrees with the bark. The egg laying continues until on into July, and, after one or two thousand eggs have been deposited, the female dies. It is almost always within this period of egg-laying that the insect is noticed, on account of its large size, but more particularly from the conspicuous white cushion at the end of its body. After the death of the female her beak breaks off and her body shrivels up, but remains attached to the twig by the cottony mass for a long time, often a year or more.

NATURAL ENEMIES.

The Cottony Maple Scale is subject to the attacks of very much the same natural enemies as other scale-insects. A number of predaceous beetles feed upon the eggs and young larvæ. We have observed the common lady-bird, *Chilocorus bivulnerus*, engaged in this work, and also the Coccinellids *Hyperaspis signata* and *H. bigeminata*. In addition to these Putnam mentions *Anatis* 15-*punctata*, "the larva of a species of *Chrysopa*," and "the larvæ of two species of *Reduviidæ*."

The interesting lepidopterous insect *Dakrumma coccidivora* Comstock, was originally bred from this bark-louse. Its larvæ construct tubular passages of silk and wax from one Pulvinaria to another on a thickly infested branch, and eat both the eggs and the waxy filaments which surround them. This insect and its curious habit were described at length by Professor Comstock in the annual report of this Department for 1879, pp. 241-243. It has been found preying upon Pulvinaria only in the vicinity of Washington, but in Florida destroys both a large *Lecanium* on magnolia, a Coccid allied to *Dactylopius* and the common "Turtle-back scale" (*Lecanium hesperidum*).

During the past season, Miss Murtfeldt has noticed a harvest mite in great numbers feeding on eggs of this species at Kirkwood, Mo. From specimens sent to the Department, this mite seems to belong to the genus *Eupodes* and is allied to the European *E. hiemalis*. It is very minute and pale reddish-yellow color. The body is divided into four distinct segments, two of which belong properly to the abdomen, the last one being the largest, the first the smallest, and the other two about equal in length. The division between the last two segments is a distinct, whitish, transverse line, while the others are indicated by slight lateral indentations and subdorsal impressions reaching to the lateral margin, of the same pale color. This is probably the same mite noticed by Miss Smith, and mentioned in her report previously cited.

Two true parasites are known to infest this scale. The first of these, *Coccophagus lecanii* (Fitch), is very common, and ordinarily infests the scales in great numbers. The adult insect is a minute, black, four-winged fly, marked with crescent-shaped yellow patch in the middle of the body above. According to Putnam, there are two broods of this parasite each season, the adults appearing in May and August. The infested lice become more or less inflated, finally turning black and becoming rigid. The females are most commonly infested, though Putnam states that he has bred the parasite from the male scale.

The second parasite was bred by Mr. Putnam after the publication of his article, and was described by Mr. Howard in his paper on the parasites of Coccids (Ann. Rept. Dept. of Agr., 1880, p. 365) as *Aphycus pulvinariæ*. This species seems to be rare and has not been bred since. It is minute, dull yellow in color, with a dusky abdomen and with antennæ variegated with brown and white.

REMEDIES.

The principal remedies which have been proposed in the past are, briefly, heading in the tree, i. e., cutting off the branches and drenching with a solution of whale-oil soap or a 1 per cent. solution of carbolic acid. During the past season, however, we have recommended nothing but kerosene emulsions, and these will undoubtedly give better satisfaction than anything else that can be used. The best time for spraying the trees will be while the young are hatching, late in May or early in June, and the apparatus described in the article on the Cottonwood Beetle can be used to the same advantage here.

This is from the pen of C. V. Riley, Chief of Bureau of Entomology, Department of Agriculture.

We append full directions for making and using kerosene emulsions.

It cannot be too strongly impressed upon all who use kerosene as an insecticide, that it can be considered a safe remedy only when properly emulsified. The formula for the kerosene and soap emulsion, as found most satisfactory by Mr. Hubbard, is as follows:

Kerosene	2 gallons	—67 per cent.
Common soap, or whale-oil soap	½ pound	—33 per cent.
Water	1 gallon	

Heat the solution of soap and add it boiling hot to the kerosene. Churn the mixture by means of a force pump and spray-nozzle for five or ten minutes. The emulsion, if perfect, forms a cream, which thickens on cooling, and should adhere without oiliness to the surface of glass. Dilute, before using, one part of the emulsion with nine parts of cold water. The above formula gives three gallons of emulsion, and makes, when diluted, thirty gallons of wash.

The kerosene and soap mixture, especially when the latter is warmed, forms upon very moderate agitation, an apparent union; but the mixture is not stable, and separates on standing or when cooled or diluted only upon violent agitation. It is formed, not gradually, but suddenly; in short, to use a familiar phrase, "it comes" like butter. The time required in churning depends somewhat upon the violence of the agitation, but still more upon the temperature, which, however, need not be much above blood heat.

When obtained, an emulsion of kerosene and soap is known by the perfect union of the ingredients, and the absence of oiliness, so that the liquid clings to the surface of glass or metal. It resembles a rich cream, more or less thickened according to the proportion of soap used in the mixture.

These details have been fully set forth in previous reports, but it seems necessary to again refer to them, because, while the value of the kerosene emulsions as insecticides has been widely acknowledged, the important point of thorough emulsification has not been sufficiently recognized, and the agricultural press of the country in the discussion of this new application of an old remedy have very generally omitted to mention the methods by which a perfect emulsion may be secured.

The following in regard to the Cottony Maple Scale, is contributed to the Agricultural Report by Miss M. E. Murtfeldt, Kirkwood, Mo.:

The Cottony Maple Scale (*Pulvinaria innumerabilis* Rath.) was reported during the month of June from many localities in Missouri, Illinois, and Kansas. Its attacks were not confined to the maples; but it occurred in great numbers on the elms and sycamores, and as the infested trees soon began to show its effects in sickly foliage and interrupted growth, much popular apprehension was excited. The insect did not appear in Kirkwood, but the white cottony masses were very abundant on the trees that shaded the city sidewalks and ornament the parks. The smaller branches and twigs of some of the trees were completely covered. Large clusters of this Coccid would also be found on any new wood that was forming over wounds on the trunk.

The only remedy that I could suggest, in response to numerous inquiries, was the saponacious kerosene emulsion, to be applied with a syringe or fountain pump. On examining some of the scales collected in Lafayette Park in July, I found a small red mite (*Eupodes* sp.?) in large numbers evidently feeding on the eggs. Subsequently I found a small brown *Psocus*, apparently engaged in the same good work. The English sparrow will have an opportunity during the winter of redeeming its character in a measure by feeding on the egg-masses of this destructive Coccid. Whether it will do so remains to be seen.

WIT AND HUMOR.

It was a witty Irishman who discovered that horseradish was strong enough to have been named after a mule.

A man has been arrested in Toledo for imprinting a "Lake Erie kiss" on the lips of a young woman. Probably she wanted a "Superior" kind.

It is said that the roller-skating fever is abating in Maine, and the rinks are being captured by the Salvation Army and canning factory corporations.

When a poet dashes off a poem and puts it on the editor's desk, the editor usually dashes it off and puts it in the waste basket. N. B.—Poets please observe this carefully.

Girl graduates in England wear gowns precisely like those worn by the university men, and made by the same tailor. The only way to tell which from tother is to wait for a mouse.

There are so many Bill Joneses in Idaho that, whenever any of them has committed a crime, the lynchers are puzzled to know which to string up. In such an emergency they usually hang the one nearest to hand.

The fact that all the peach blossoms have been killed and the fact that next summer we will have just as many peaches as ever lead to only one inference, and that is that peaches do not grow on peach-trees.—*Boston Post.*

Mother—Are you quite sure, dear, that young Featherly is quite fond of you? He certainly seemed very devoted last night when he buttoned your glove. Daughter—Ah, yes, mother; but his hand never trembled.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Two Americans in London: "I wonder why every one is so happy?" asks one. "Don't you know?" the other one replies. "An Arab has just been found dead in the Soudan, and it is supposed that the British killed him."—*Arkansaw Traveler.*

"If man wants to own the earth, what does woman want?" inquired Mr. Gap of his better half, after a little family matinee, a few days ago. "Well, my dear," responded that lady in a gentle tone, "to own the man, I suppose."—*Boston Post.*

Fashionable wife—Did you notice, dear, at the party last evening, how grandly our daughter Clara swept into the room? Husband (with a grunt)—O, yes, Clara can sweep into a room grandly enough, but when it comes to sweeping out a room she isn't there.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Scene on a horse-car: Passenger—"Conductor, what are we being delayed for?" Conductor — "Misplaced switch, sir." Little boy in the rear—"Well! that is what I told mother this morning when she gave me such a whaling." Passengers in a chorus all smiling and satisfied.

"A man never knows," says a Boston writer, "when an idea is going to strike him. Of its arrival he has no intellectual premonition." That's a fact, and the majority of men never know that an idea has struck them. Probably it is because they are so unaccustomed to the habits of an idea that they don't know when it has arrived.—*Arkansaw Traveler.*

A little boy on returning from Sunday-school recently, when asked by his mother, "What was the golden text?" instantly replied: "Hold a grater to Solomon's ear." For a moment the mother was puzzled, and then could not restrain her laughter as the true text came to her—"Behold a greater one than Solomon is here." Children get strange notions and need plain words and clear thoughts.

"Boots Mended While You Wait."—Credulous party (handing in his boots)—"Look sharp, now, and I'll wait." Shoemaker—"We're so full of work you can't have 'em under a couple of days." Credulous party—"A couple of days! Why, you rascally old humbug! you have got it stuck up in your window that you mend 'em while you wait." Shoemaker—"Jist so; and if you'll wait a coupie of days you'll have 'em."

Colonel Jeff Thompson, engineer on the first train that ran into Greenville, states that as he entered town he saw a large man standing near the track with an open umbrella as a protection from the heavy rain that was falling. With a spice of mischief he asked the large man to close the umbrella, so as not to frighten the train from the track. Whereupon the large man hastily closed his blue umbrella and watched the proceedings with head uncovered to the pelting rain.—*Greenville (Ga.) Indicator.*

Chicago actress—Oh, Mr. Bootman, I just heard the sweetest thing about Miss De Stella, the New York actress. She wears in one play a pair of slippers made of hair from her own head. Could you make a pair like that? Mr. Bootman (fashionable shoemaker)—I never tried it, but I believe I can do it. "I am so glad. I have the combings at my room. Make them in any style you choose. Remember, I give you *carte blanche.*" "Oh, any kind of a cart will do. Send one load around this morning to commence on."

"Horatius," said the school mistress to a 9-year-old boy with two imposing freckles on the knees of his pants, "Horatius, please form a sentence with the word 'toward' in it and write the sentence on the board." Horatius went to the board, and, after much scratching of head and friction of brain, printed with the crayon, in letters that looked like a lot of half-feathered Shanghai chickens running after a piece of dough, the following sentence: "I toward my trousers."—*Lewiston Journal.*

General Albert Pike's ability to eat is still a wonder to his friends. Years ago he made a reputation in this line, and he is one of the few men whose early promises have ripened. Recently, while visiting in Little Rock, he took dinner at the capital hotel. When asked what he would have he replied: "Well, having eaten a late breakfast I am not very hungry. Bring me a dozen raw oysters, some mashed potatoes, a dozen fried oysters, a baked duck, a couple of slices of ham, a good-sized beefsteak, a piece of shoat and a red snapper."

"You don't cook like Sary Ann used to, Matilda," he said, in tones of gentle exasperating reproof; "no, it seems to me you can't cook like Sary Ann used to." On another occasion it was: "You're not as smart in gettin' round as Sary Ann was, Matilda. You don't suppose to ketch on where she left off." About this time a heavy rolling-pin came in contact with his head. "What do you mean by that, you vixen?" he exclaimed in agony. "I'm doing some of the work Sary Ann neglected," she replied, and there was much peace in the family thereafter.

A Kentuckian one day mounted his good mare Pidge, and threw across his saddle a bag with two turtles in each end. Being a humane man, he made a hole near each of the turtles to give them air. This did very well until the ill-natured turtles worked their heads out of the holes and nabbed poor Pidge simultaneously on her flanks. She made a spring that threw her rider, and away she went. The turtles held their grip, and Pidge ran till she fell exhausted. Since then, no Kentuckian, as far as heard from, has ever used turtles for spurs.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

New Boarder—I beg your pardon, madam, and hope you won't be angry, but I can't stay here. I did not know that your daughter had a craze for art or I would not have come. I left the last place because I was driven almost insane by their esthetic trumperies. Mrs. Slimdiet—Really, sir, you surprise me. My daughter has no craze for art. "Then how does it happen that she has been doing repousse work for the last hour?" "Repousse work?" "Yes; hammering brass. The noise is fearful." "Oh! calm yourself, sir. That's only the cook with the beefsteak."

Bismarck's Size and Voice.

Every political gourmet must enjoy hearing Prince Bismarck speak. He is no elegant orator, rather the contrary, but he can lead a debate like no one else. Only a few days ago he spoke seven times in one afternoon, each time with more energy and spirit, proving that his health is indeed restored. Suddenly soft bells are heard in all parts of the house. The electric bells in the reading-room, in the committee rooms, the journalists' room are sounded to announce the arrival of the chancellor, who has shown that he will speak presently, for with one of his pencils, more than a foot long, he has noted down something on the loose quarto sheets before him, with letters not more than an inch deep, and this is a safe sign that he intends speaking. The president bows to him, and Prince Bismarck rises to "take the word." He is certainly more than six feet high; over his powerful chest and broad shoulders rises a strangely rounded, well-shaped head of enormous dimensions, and with no hair upon it, so that it looks like a dome of polished ivory. Thick white brows hang over his eyes like two icicles. These brows give his face a dark and frowning expression, and the look which glistens in his eyes is cold and somewhat cruel—at least in parliament. His moustache is also thick and gray, and conceals the mouth entirely, the whole face is covered with folds and wrinkles, broad rings surround his eyes, and even his temples are covered with small wrinkles. When he begins to speak the color of his face changes from pale to red, and gradually assumes a light bronze shade, which gives his powerful skull the appearance of polished metal.

It is a surprise to hear Bismarck speak for the first time. The soft, almost weak, voice is out of all proportion with his gigantic frame. It sometimes becomes so soft that we fear it will die out altogether, and when he has spoken for a while it grows hoarse. The chancellor sometimes speaks very fast, sometimes very slowly, but never in a loud tone. He has no pathos whatever. Personal attacks upon his enemies are spoken by Bismarck with ironical politeness, and in such an obliging tone as if they concealed the kindest sentiments. But if his anger cannot be heard it can be seen; his face gradually grows red, and the veins on his neck swell in an alarming manner. When angry he usually grasps the collar of his uniform, and seems to catch for breath. His brows are lowered still more, so that his eyes are almost invisible. His voice grows a shade louder, and has a slight metallic ring in it. The sentences drop from his lips in rapid succession. He throws back his head and gives his face a hard, stony expression. But it is difficult to discern when his anger is real and when it is artificial. The chancellor has been seen trembling with rage, and more like the elements let loose than anything else. Once when he thought that the word "Fie!" had been said by one of the opposition party he had one of his attacks, which would have silenced the house had everybody been speaking at once. With trembling nostrils, with his teeth firmly set, with eyes that emitted fire, and clinched hands, he jumped from his place to the side where the word had sounded. If ample apologies and explanations had not been offered, who knows how this scene might have ended? But except upon such rare occasions Bismarck, the orator, is always a well-bred man. He does not bawl or shout any of his speeches, but while giving them their full share of pointed sarcasm, he always maintains the form of a political conversation between gentlemen. He has a method of his own for waging war against his opponents. He regards his opponent's speech as a ball of wool, the last sentence spoken being the end which he takes in his hand first, and with which he begins to unwind the whole speech as he would unwind the ball of wool. But it is easy to see that while his tongue is speaking his spirit is far in advance of it.—*Zurich Paper Translation in London News.*

Mrs. Sam Smart advertised for a colored servant. An elegantly dressed colored lady put in an appearance. She wanted $15 a month in advance, which was conceded. She wanted a room with a carpet and stove, where she could receive the visits of "seberal gemmen who am payin' me tenshuns.' This was also granted. She was to be allowed to attend church all day Sunday and twice during the week. When a revival was in progress she proposed to be out every evening in the week. This and several other concessions were granted by Mrs. Smart, who is fanatically opposed to doing any hard work herself, and who will put up with everything from a servant rather than soil her precious hands.

"And I want it understood about de meals," continued the would-be menial. "I likes to eat hearty. We has to hab beefsteak or sausage ebery mornin', and for myself I want chocolate instead of coffee. Den I wants a lunch of cold ham or tongue about 10 o'clock, so I ken hold out till dinner at 1 o'clock. I don't takes coffee with my dinner. De coffee and cakes comes about half-past 5 o'clock in the afternoon, which will make me hold out till tea at 6. De best time for supper am about 8 o'clock. Good supper I wants."

"I say," said Sam Smart, who had been listening attentively with growing indignation, "suppose we keep you busy eating all the time, how much more will you charge by the month?"—*Washington Hatchet.*

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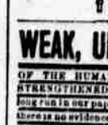

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