

absorbing interest in everything that lives and grows, his warm heart, his cheeriness, his perfect lack of even a suspicion of egotism, attracted every one who knew him, and bound them to him in friendship, and even love, forever. Here in Washington among the entomologists and others there are many sad hearts to-day."

DR. WILLIAM H. ASHMEAD.

On the 17th of October, Dr. William Harris Ashmead died in Washington, D. C., aged 53 years. For more than a year he was in such an unsatisfactory state of health that his recovery appeared impossible, and it was therefore no surprise to learn that the end had at last arrived. His breakdown in the midst of a career of scientific usefulness was evidently brought about by overwork; he devoted himself with such intensity to the study of the Hymenoptera and the publication of the results that he gave himself no rest, and literally wore himself out, to the grief and distress of his family and many friends.

For close upon thirty years he was a constant contributor to the pages of this magazine, his first articles on insects affecting the orange having appeared in 1879. At that time he lived in Jacksonville, Florida, where he was engaged in the publishing business, which included the issue of a daily paper and a weekly agricultural journal. He was naturally much interested in the production of oranges, and his attention thus became drawn to the insects injuring the trees and fruit, and those parasitic forms that somewhat kept them in check. His work was so thorough that he was made a field entomologist for the United States Department of Agriculture in 1887, and began his career as a professional entomologist.

In 1890 he went to Germany and studied for some time in Berlin, thus becoming qualified for the performance of scientific work of a high character. In July, 1897, he was appointed a Curator of the Department of Insects in the U. S. National Museum at Washington, and continued to hold the position till incapacitated by illness.

In October, 1904, he was elected an honorary member of the Entomological Society of Ontario in recognition of his eminence in the science and the valuable contributions that he so constantly made to the pages of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST. His studies were devoted to the Hymenoptera, and he published many systematic papers on various superfamilies in the order and described a large number of genera and species. His work was of such a high character that it is regarded as authoritative, and

has attracted the attention of the leading entomologists of both Europe and America. One of his completed works is his Monograph of the Proctotrypidæ, a volume of nearly 500 pages, published in 1893. Most of his papers are to be found in the Transactions of the American Entomological Society of Philadelphia, and in this magazine.

He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from the Western University of Pennsylvania, and was the recipient of many distinctions from various Entomological Societies. Personally he was esteemed and beloved by all who knew him, and there are many who now deplore his loss.

C. J. S. B.

#### JOHN A. BALKWILL.

Another death that it falls to our lot to record is that of our worthy friend, Mr. John A. Balkwill, Director for the London District, and for several years the efficient Treasurer of the Entomological Society of Ontario. After a few weeks of severe illness, he died at his residence in London on the 10th of October last, esteemed and respected by all who knew him. For a great many years he was an active member of the Society, and did a great deal to maintain the interest and enthusiasm of his colleagues in the study of Botany and Entomology and the use of the microscope. He was also particularly devoted to the cultivation of flowers, and became the first President of the local Horticultural Society, and continued a member of its directorate. In recognition of his valued assistance, Mr. C. S. Sargent, in his recent Monograph of the genus *Cratægus* in Ontario, named a new species, *Cratægus Balkwilli*, after him. It is a handsome tree found growing near London.

C. J. S. B.

#### ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

The forty-fifth annual meeting of the Society was held at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 5th and 6th. Owing to the lamented absence of the President, Dr. Fletcher, whose serious illness terminated in his death on the 8th inst., the chair was taken by the Vice President, Mr. T. D. Jarvis, during the day meetings, and by Dr. Bethune at the evening sessions. Amongst those present were: Rev. Dr. Fyles, Levis, P. Q.; Mr. Henry H. Lyman, Montreal; Prof. Lochhead, Macdonald College, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P. Q.; Mr. Arthur Gibson, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa; Mr. F. J. A. Morris, Trinity College School, Port Hope; Dr. Wm. Brodie, Mr. C. W. Nash and