

The Farm.

Potato Bugs.

Every year in different portions of the country, there is a continually increasing complaint of the damages done by "potato bugs."

The public are frequently informed that the potato bug has been, or is, abundant, and destructive in "this section" at such a time, by agricultural and newspaper writers, and thus such and such remedies have proved effectual in destroying them, or that they are preyed upon by certain other insects, which it is hoped will be able to check or finally drive them off.

Three of the ten feed externally upon the leaves and tender stems, while two burrow, like a borer, exclusively in the larger stalks. Almost every one of these has its peculiar insect enemies; and a mode of attack which will prove successful with some of them, will very often turn out worthless when employed against others.

We are enabled in this abstract to give only the names and present some of the more common characteristics of the different families of these pests.

First we will take the "Stalk Borer." (*Gortyna Nortia Garence*). Its larva is not peculiar to the potato, as it also infests tomato, dahlia, aster, and other garden-stalks.

The potato stalk weevil (*Baridus trivittatus*), according to Dr. Harris, is a more peculiarly southern species, ranging from the Middle States south, and unknown in New England.

The potato, or tomato worm (*Sphinx maculata*), is well known to tobacco growers as the tobacco worm, and moth, and needs nothing further explanatory.

The striped Blister beetle (*Lytta vittata*) follows. Four varieties are mentioned as belonging to the *Lytta* family. They are only destructive of the foliage of the plant in their perfect winged state, living and feeding on various roots, under ground, in their larva state.

in large doses. The striped blister beetle is almost exclusively a southern species, occurring some years very abundantly. This beetle is said to take all other varieties of potatoes in preference to the Peachblow, and may be destroyed by driving them off the vines with a bush, placing hay or straw between the rows in which they will seek to hide and burning them.

We have next, the Ash-gray blister beetle, (*Lytta vitata*) follows. Four varieties are mentioned as belonging to the *Lytta* family. They are only destructive of the foliage of the plant in their perfect winged state, living and feeding on various roots, under ground, in their larva state.

We have next, the Ash-gray blister beetle, (*Lytta vitata*). It is found more commonly in the northern part of the northern States. It attacks not only the potato, but the honey locust, and English or Windsor beans. It has been known to swarm upon every apple tree of a small orchard in northern Illinois, eating the foliage and gnawing the young apples.

Next is the Black Rat blister beetle, (*Lytta murina*), which is often mistaken for the black blister beetle, (*Lytta atrata*) from which it differs only in having four raised lines placed lengthwise upon each wing-case, and by the two first joints of the antennae being greatly dilated and lengthened in the males.

The Margined blister beetle, (*Lytta marginata*), is a species easily recognized by its general black color, and the narrow ash-gray edging to its wing. It usually feeds on certain wild plants in Wisconsin and Illinois it has been known to feed on the potato vine, and been taken in company with the striped blister beetle, and is known to be increasing on the potato.

These are only a portion of the many varieties of "potato bugs," but the list is believed to embrace the most injurious of them. A knowledge of these varieties, of their manner of breeding, and of their habits, will aid materially extermination.—*Utica Herald*.

A Beautiful Passage. The following is from the reveries of a bachelor, by Ike Marvel: "A poor man without some sort of religion is at best but a poor reprobate, the football of destiny, with no tie linking him to infinity and the wondrous eternity that is even worse—a flame without heat, a rainbow without a color, a flower without perfume.

A man may, in some sort tie his honor to this shifting ground tackle, to his business or the world, but a woman without that anchor called faith, is a drift and a wreck! A man may in some sort of moral responsibility out of relation to mankind, but a woman, in her comparatively isolated sphere, where affection and not purpose is the controlling motive, can find no basis in any other system or right action but that of faith.

A man may craze his thoughts to trustfulness, in such poor harborage as fame and reputation may stretch before him, but a woman—where can she put her hopes in storms, if not Heaven? And that sweet trustfulness—that abiding love—that enduring hope—melting every page and scene in life—lighting them with radiance, when the world's storms break like an army with cannon.

Who can bestow its all but holy soul, tied to what is stronger than an army with cannon? Who has enjoyed the love of a Christian mother, but will echo the thought with energy, and hallow it with tears?

PEACH AND CRANBERRY PROSPECT IN NEW JERSEY.—Dr. C. C. Bristol has been among the peach-orchards in New Jersey recently, and he states in his paper—*Country Homes*—that the promise is fine for a full crop the present season, particularly in Ocean County. The cranberry meadows are also in excellent condition, and unless some new insect enemy or unlooked-for calamity has advent, the harvest will be unusually heavy.

TO CONSUMPTIVES. The advertiser, having been restored to health in a few weeks, by a very simple remedy, after having suffered several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease, Consumption, is anxious to make known to his fellow-sufferers the means of cure.

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