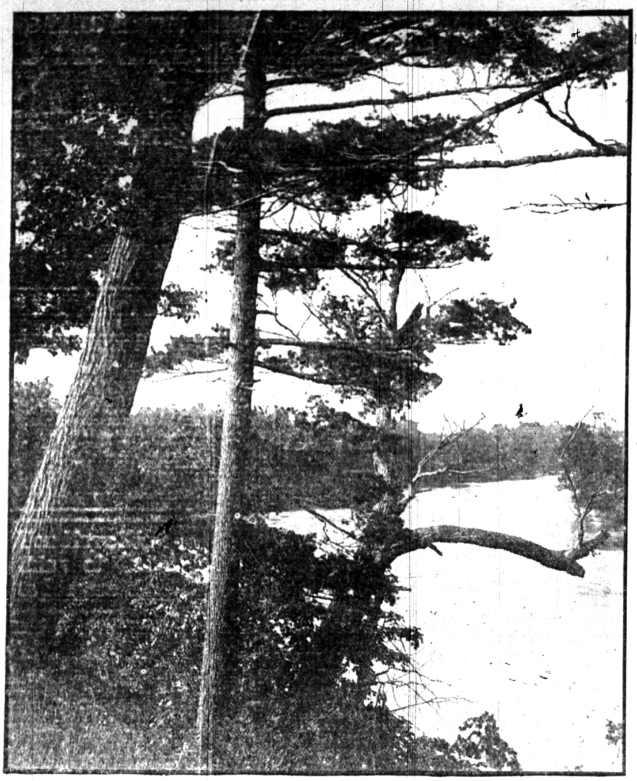
View Along St. Joe River in Michigan



Along the banks of the St. Joe River in Michigan is found some of the finest scenery in the West. Here Nature in her happier mood has decorated the earth with tree and shrub and verdure to form a perfect picture of beauty. The green of summer, the darker hues of autumn, even the bare branches of winter, delight the eye with their perfection. The photographer may wander for miles along this beautiful stream, and bear away pictures that will well recompense him for the time spent in collecting them. The above, taken by Mr. Eugene J. Hall, of Chicago, is one of the most perfect ever secured.

COLLEGE AUDIENCE HARD TO FACE

Youths Have Theories of Their Own in Regard to Sermon.

Presbyterian elders may sit severely in judgment on the theology of young preachers, but for ruthless criticism of preaching it is hard to equal a college audience. Manuscripts in the pulpit are considered undesirable by them, and any sermon the length of which is more than twenty minutes must be more than passing good to gain approval. Most unpardonable of all is an attempt to "play to" the audience by a reference to athletics. This is felt to be an obvious departure from the preacher's province, and is not to be tolerated. The boys keep a memorandum of the number of football sermons preached each fall by ministers of good intentions.

Occasionally the young men gathered against their will for worship are rather cruel in calling down a clergyman who has sinned against the college code. Yale registered its disapproval of a prominent New York minister not long ago in an emphatic manner. The preacher had begun shortly before 11 o'clock. The college bell chimed the quarter and the half hour following, and all precedent proclaimed that he should have done. Thirty-five minutes of exposition had been forced on the students, when the minister proposed, "Now let us turn to the other side."

This was too much for the boys, who, thirteen hundred strong, took him at his word, and shifted legs and generally changed position. The mass play was perfect, and the noise very great. The widespread shuffling refused to die down till the clergyman decided to leave the subject one sided and proceed with the final hymn.—New York Tribune.

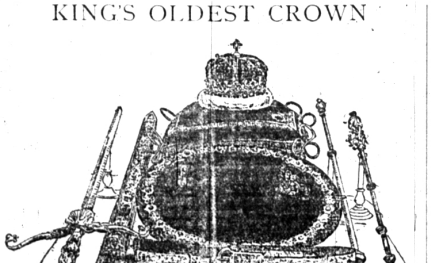
Roses Did Not Count.

Miss Ellen Stone's lecturing tour has begun. She told the story of her capture and captivity to a New York audience and she evidently wanted to please all the persons who sent her flowers, for the whole front of her corsage was covered with masses of roses. "I don't see that she explained anything," said a woman who heard her speak, "and what she called Christian forbearance and fortitude in Mr. Tsilka's letting the brigands simply carry his wife and Miss Stone into captivity I should call simple cowardice. Even if the odds were against him he ought to have fought, and he was armed too. It will take more than the sight of Miss Stone restored to make me forget that there was a man who stood by and let women be made prisoners."

Four things put a man beside himself—women, tobacco, cards and wine.

The rich man transgresses the law, the poor man is punished.

KING'S OLDEST CROWN



In Edinburgh Castle, Scotland, is the most ancient crown of the British Kingdom. It is the one which King Edward would wear were it not that by the treaty of union it must never leave the Castle of Edinburgh.

The crown of England as worn today is of comparatively modern make, as Oliver Cromwell caused the former emblem of sovereignty to be destroyed. To preserve the crown of Scotland from a similar fate it was buried in Kineff Church, where it lay for a long period.

It was worn by Robert the Bruce in 1306, by the Queen of Scots and by Mary Queen of Scots. When the union treaty was signed the regalia were deposited in an cabin chest in a windowless cell in the castle, and for 110 years never saw the light. Since 1817 the crown room has been the home of the most ancient regal emblems in Great Britain.

The crown is of pure gold, enriched with many precious stones, diamonds, pearls and curious enameling. It is nine inches in diameter, 27 inches about, and in height from the under circle to the top of the last pearl on the cross patee, six and a half inches.

The sword of state is five feet in length, richly decorated, with a scabbard of crimson velvet. It was presented by Pope Julius to James IV. with a consecrated hat in 1507.

The scepter is 24 inches long, part of it being of very ancient date. The mace is of gold, surmounted by a great crystal beryl, and has descended from the days of Macbeth.

There are also preserved in the crown room of Edinburgh castle the golden collar of the Garter belonging to James VI., the order of St. Andrew and the ancient ruby ring which the kings of Scotland wore at their coronation.

J. P. MORGAN WIELDS VAST POWER

In Financial Affairs He Is the World's Greatest Private Citizen.

The most powerful private citizen in the world to-day so far as financial affairs are concerned is J. Pierpont Morgan, writes Charles S. Gleed in the Cosmopolitan. There are men of greater wealth than he and men in the possession of equal opportunities and facilities, but no man outside of government circles has more power today in the business world than he.

Mr. Morgan, unlike other of our great men, never had to struggle for education, position or affluence. He put down his school books and stepped into the great banking business built up by his father and his father's associates. He possessed energy and ability and used them unsparingly in forcing himself to his present position in the front rank of the world of finance.

He can come nearer unsettling the great markets of the world to-day than any other unofficial person, but is as little likely to unsettle them as any man in the world. His management is one of construction, not destruction: bringing peace out of war, order out of chaos. What is now the Southern Railway was a few years ago a flock of poorly-run railroads, yielding ruin to their owners and discomfort and dissatisfaction to their patrons. In this, as in many other similar instances, Morgan's executive ability wrought the transformation.

His physical power is great. Wisely giving a part of his time to rest, he prevents the cares of his position from wearing upon him. He likes the sea, foreign travel, pictures, music, jolly friends and good talk.

While he does not pose as a philanthropist, his charities in the past decade have been in the neighborhood of $5,000,000.

He Had a New Word.

"Say, I've just annexed a new word and I'm dead anxious to work it off on the lady boss of the flat house. She'll think I'm 'calling her out of her name,' and perhaps have me summoned to court, and then, O joy, the neighbors will give her the laugh and she'll lose prestige among her subjects."

"What is the new word?" asked the second lookout for a new building that is being erected near Herald Square.

"Janitrix? Never heard it. Neither had I, but it's as all right as a stack of blues in 'Dick' Canfield's, and it sounds just insinuating enough to make the average janitress boil. I know it's good, for I read it over the door of public school building No. 80, around in Thirty-seventh street. Of course the principal wouldn't let it go if it wasn't pure. And, then, besides, I looked it up in the dictionary. 'Mrs. Blank, janitrix,' that's the way it goes. Just imagine yelling down the air shaft: 'Here, you janitrix, the water pipe's burst!' and then imagine what will follow. How quickly you would be informed that the janitress, with the stress on the stress, was a perfect lady, and that she meant to have the law on you."

To Talk Over Old Times.

Arkansas is to furnish a smoking room for both the blue and the gray at the St. Louis fair. Conversation ought not to lag in that room.

MAN HAD TEN FELT OF WHISKERS

Finally Tired of the Burden and Sacrificed Them.

William H. Marden of Stockton, got so tired answering questions about his long and wavy beard that he seized a pair of shears, cut off the flowing growth and thrust it into the kitchen stove. Thus perished the longest and most remarkable set of whiskers in Kansas. When Marden was a boy, his beard grew rapidly and he had to shave unusually often. After a while he became tired of shaving and allowed the beard to grow, with the result that it soon became so long as to attract attention, not only in Stockton, and surrounding towns, but all over the state. Managers of museums have sent agents to Stockton to get Marden and his beard for a curiosity, but although they offered liberal pay he rejected the propositions, saying he had always made a good living on his farm and didn't propose to become a show attraction.

Two years ago the beard measured eight feet six inches long, and still growing. It was heavy and cumbersome, so that he was obliged to tie or braid it up. He could toss it over his shoulder and drag the end on the ground behind him, and he is a tall man. Last week the beard measured ten feet four inches, and Marden decided it was time to rid himself of the sweeping mess of reddish brown hair. So the growth of thirty years went up in the chimney, and Marden is so changed that even his next door neighbors scarcely recognize him.—Philadelphia North American.

CURIOUS TEST OF OBSERVATION

Experiment in Germany of some Value to Cause of Justice.

An interesting series of experiments has been tried by the school authorities in South Germany to test the acuity of observation as it is exercised by boys and girls.

A man dressed as an ordinary workman and with ordinary features was placed in a room by himself. Classes of girls of different ages were sent through the room. All that the teacher told them was that they were to go into the room, through one door and out through another.

When they returned to their classrooms they were asked to describe the man in the room.

Nearly 80 per cent of the girls confined their attention to the man's clothes and features. The same experiments, when tried with boys, revealed the fact that nearly 70 per cent of them confined their attention to the man's features, the remainder to his features and clothes. The experiments have been tried with the object of finding the force of evidence in cases where young people are called as witnesses to establish identity.—Household Words.

Russell Sage Had a Fright.

There was unwonted excitement in Russell Sage's office one day last week. A sometime reporter, now a stock broker, who has not yet begun to handle millions, had some business with Mr. Sage. When he was through he said:

"Mr. Sage, let me handle a million dollars. I'd like to experience the sensation of holding so much money."

The veteran financier was in complaisant mood. He handed out a package of a thousand $1000 bills and enjoyed watching the young man fondle the paper representation of wealth.

"Thank you," at length remarked the young man, who is somewhat of a practical joker, as he rolled the bundle up in a newspaper and took up his hat.

"Hold up! Stop!" shrieked Mr. Sage, touching a bell button, and in an instant the office swarmed with Mr. Sage's employes.

"I have had the pleasure of handling a million," said the young man, laying down the package, "and you have the anxiety of keeping it."

"Yes, yes," said Mr. Sage, still somewhat nervous, "but it is a pleasurable anxiety," he added.

A Kipling Family Story.

The following story is told of Rudyard Kipling's maternal grandfather, the Rev. George B. McDonald, a Wesleyan clergyman:

It is related of this gentleman that in the days when he was courting the lady whom he afterward married the father-in-law to be—an aged Methodist with extremely strict notions in regard to the proprieties—was injudicious enough on one occasion to enter the parlor without giving any warning of his approach. The consequence was that he found the sweethearts occupying a single chair.

Deeply shocked by this spectacle, the old man solemnly said:

"Mr. McDonald, when I was courting Mrs. Brown she sat on one side of the room and I on the other."

McDonald's reply was:

"That's what I should have done if I had been courting Mrs. Brown."

Divorce an Easy Matter.

Divorce is even more easily managed in Syria than it is in America, for in America there are at least some law court proceedings to be gone through, whereas in Syria three words spoken by the husband will do the deed and put the woman out of the house. These words spoken, the wife drops whatever work she may be engaged in, takes her youngest child (the others belong to their father, and goes back to her father's house, where she remains, a disowned and degraded creature, until another purchaser comes forward for her. If the woman's husband repents and desires to have her back, he engages a professional tool—generally a half-witted person, who makes a living in this way—to marry her and divorce her next day. The reason of this is that a man may not take back his divorced wife unless she has since been married and divorced by another man.

Berlin's New Railway.

After five and a half years of labor in construction the Berlin elevated and underground electric railway is open for traffic.

It sometimes happens that after meeting a great man you discover that his reputation is about three times larger than he is.

AGRICULTURE

Alkali Soil.

In different parts of the West there has been much complaint of "alkali soils." In all cases complained of these soils have been under cultivation, the alkali at first not seeming to affect the crops. The rendering barren of the soil has occurred after the application of irrigation water, and usually after a number of years operations. Year by year these barren tracts have increased till it has become a question of some moment as to what should be done to reclaim the lost areas and to prevent other areas from becoming also infertile. On careful investigation it has been found that the alkali in these soils was so distributed through the soils at first that it was not harmful to plants. Thus, in a layer of earth three feet deep there would be a certain amount of alkali, enough to be decidedly harmful if it were moved from its position in the subsoil and accumulated in the first foot of soil. The irrigating of the fields and orchards has brought about this very thing, as the amount of water applied was not sufficient to more than supply the needs of the crop and of evaporation. Had the water been sufficiently abundant to have supplied a good quantity for drainage the alkali would have remained largely distributed through the soil. As it was, the water in three feet of soil was gradually drawn upward by capillary attraction and took the alkali with it. Thus the alkali was brought to the surface and deposited in a thin layer. A continuance of this process increased the alkali to a point where it destroyed all vegetation. The Arizona station has apparently solved the question for all localities that are subject to flood waters. These should be used to flood these lands, covering them to a depth of eight inches or more. The result would be the carrying away of much of the alkali and the washing of other portions into the subsoil.

The Campbell Method Approved.

Several years ago, when Mr. Campbell was publishing through the country the wonderful things that his system of soil culture would do, he received small attention. We thought, then, and think now, that his system is of no particular use in Illinois, Wisconsin and adjoining states or in other states where the supply of soil moisture is ample in most years. The system seems to be particularly adapted to the lands in the more arid regions, especially where those lands have been used some great distances from the surface. For some years now the system has been tried in Western Kansas, and favorable reports are received from it. Professor H. M. Cottrell, of the Kansas Experiment Station, is particularly enthusiastic in support of it for Kansas. He relates many circumstances where it has given good sized crops where all others have failed, and says that every farmer in Western Kansas should give it a trial. Mr. Campbell has purchased a farm at Hill City, Graham County, Kansas, on which he is showing what his method can do. The farm was one of the most unproductive ones in the county, the crops generally failing on account of drouth. Mr. Campbell has changed all that. The crops grown on his lands last year were good ones, while crops grown by other methods failed. It may be that the Campbell soil culture will yet push the line of profitable farming further west.

Seasons in Porto Rico.

The question "when to plant?" is a puzzle for the Porto Rico agriculturist. It seems to make no great difference when a crop is planted—the result is always the same—a good harvest. Some years ago, one of the Island's most enthusiastic agriculturists, in endeavoring to force Nature to divulge her season secret, planted a patch of corn each month consecutively for a year with the result that sixteen months from the time of the first planting he was rewarded with his twelfth good crop. There was a slight difference in the height of the December crop from the other eleven and it was a few days longer in ripening, but aside from these two differences, there was nothing to show that Nature favored one crop more than another. Another prominent grower, in experimenting with pineapples, produced an abundance of this fruit in March, fully three months before its "season." These two citations of the many like experiments that have been made on the Island, make it easy to understand how it is possible for the people in the United States to have fresh fruit and vegetables 365 days in the year.—Porto Rico Agricultural Journal.

Some Rye Pasturage.

A correspondent of the Farmers' Review mentions the fact that last year he had twenty acres of rye and will get a good crop from it this spring. He says that in addition he saved $50 worth of feed by pasturing it in the fall and spring. It came particularly handy this past winter when hay was selling at $8 per ton and corn at 55 cents per bushel. The rye crop frequently works in to advantage with other crops, and wherever it can be advantageously used will pay well. It is of great value to the men that have no silos and have to feed dry hay all winter. It adds succulence to the ration, and in that is like fresh silage. The practice of pasturing rye is an old one, but may yet survive the incroachment of modern methods.

Timber belts around farms have their friends and their enemies. Some claim that they take up too much room and cast too much shade. Others claim that the shaded fields give more corn or any kind of grain, especially in the states where hot winds blast the crops.

If Mr. Jones plants one bed of lettuce and two beds of onions, how long will it take Mr. Brown's chickens to fig them up?

Two sparrows on one ear of corn

NATURAL RAIN BURNS THE CROPS

Caustic Showers Fall Around Italy's Famous Crater.

A singular phenomenon has occurred this year and has caused considerable damage in the villages around Vesuvius, says Consul Nevile Rolfe in his report on the trade of South Italy for 1901. The volcano is constantly pouring out a large cloud of steam from its summit. This steam is highly charged with hydrochloric acid, and a shower of rain falling through it becomes impregnated with this acid, and falling on the growing crops burns all the young shoots. No doubt some special atmospheric or other conditions must have been present, because the mountain has poured out its steam and the rain must have fallen through it for centuries without the same result occurring, and in fact the phenomenon only lasted for about a month in the spring. During this month, however, the sprouting vines suffered severely, both leaves and buds being shriveled up, and having the appearance of having been burnt, and in the case of the villages nearest the mountain the cereals growing below the vines are seriously damaged, and in some cases destroyed, says the London Globe.

Fortunately the vines which were the most forward suffered the least, but the damage was so widespread that it reached Palma, near Nola, where the produce consists of hazelnuts which are indigenous to the district, and are grown for export in large quantities. These have been practically ruined, all the young shoots being destroyed. It is hoped that the mischief will not extend itself to the plants themselves, and that only this year's crop will be lost.

EXPLANATION OF RAINS OF DUST

Studies Abroad of the Phenomenon Which Was Observed Here.

Just a year before the dust rains which occurred last month in Massachusetts, New Jersey and elsewhere there were similar occurrences over a large part of central Europe and in a lesser degree over most of the continent. In fact the phenomenon was very remarkable for its extent, it having been observed from Sicily in the south to the Danish Islands of Falster and Laaland in the north. The largest amount of muddy rain, however, fell in northern Italy, Austria and Germany.

This fact is very well understood now that dust rains are caused by the driving of clouds of dust raised by a hurricane or strong wind into a rain storm, the dust thus being changed to mud by the time it reaches the earth. Such storms are called blood rains in Sicily and some other regions, where superstitious people hold them in much dread.

Scientific men of Europe made a careful study of the dust rains which occurred there a year ago, and the facts they ascertained are interesting. Mr. Stanislaus Meunlers analyzed a sample of the dust collected at Palermo which he found to consist of 20.14 per cent of aluminate of lime +27.91 per cent, together with black particles of the nature of charcoal.—New York Sun.

Thought Gov. Nye a Great Man.

Back in the '60s Gov. Nye of Nevada was an inveterate poker player, one time while at Stillwater he was playing poker in the presence of Capsine, peace chief of the Pintes. Capsine asked the governor to play with him and the governor consented. The play was two bits ante and a dollar limit. The Indian's capital was $10 and the governor, who cheated outrageously, soon won all the money. Capsine then put up his saddle, which quickly went with his cash. His blanket followed. His pony was staked and lost. The governor's face wore a wicked smile. "Governor," said the Indian, "you got my money, my saddle, my blanket and my pony; now I bet you my squaw." The governor's expression at once became benevolent. "Capsine," he explained, "I cannot take your wife—the paleface does not indulge in double blessings of this variety, but if you will promise never to play poker again I will give you back your money and your property." Capsine was delighted and always after that told the story to illustrate what a great man was Gov. Nye.

Willing to Carry Two Loads.

Down in the Fourth ward yesterday two Irishmen, as near a burlesque as ever appeared on the stage, were arguing about a drink.

They called in the bartender for a referee, and when he saw there was no chance of settling it he asked as a pacifying procedure:

"How wud you loike to be the oice mon?"

"Not me," said the louder of the Irish men. "I wud sooner be the gareboge mon."

"What, and work on those wagons all day?"

"Go an," responded the man. "If I wuz the gareboge mon I wud git up oirley, git me load o'potheen before in i' th' mornin' and come home fixed for another before noon."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Hens Sell No Results.

Blasting in the field of the Hennepin canal near Peru, Ills., is causing the hens of that town to set long without results. Poultry breeders declare that the explosions destroy the vital sparks in the eggs, and no chicks have been hatched near the canal in that own since the blasting began three weeks ago.

Rock Falls takes special pride in its fancy chickens, many of the leading citizens belonging to the Arena Poultry Association, and the dispositions of the associations members have been almost as badly jarred as the eggs. At times 200 pounds of dynamite are exploded in the canal, but the effect of the explosion is more noticeable across Rock River in Sterling than in Rock Falls, rattling down dishes from shelves and breaking window panes, while the Rock Falls troubles are confined to the eggs.

Misfortune Charged to Railroads.

The extension of railways into the Scotch Highlands is gravely declared to have been the cause of the depopulation of the district.

HORTICULTURE

Missouri Fruit Report.

L. A. Goodman, secretary of the Missouri State Horticultural Society, sends out the following report:

Apple prospects are fairly promising in all parts of the state where orchards have been well cultivated, and are not too old, or did not have an overload of apples last year. The orchards showing best are the young trees. Reports now justify about 60 per cent of a crop of apples.

Pears have withstood the drouth better than the apple, and where the blight has not injured the trees a full crop can be expected.

Peach prospects are good in southwest part and extreme south central portion. The cold of last December killed virtually, all the peach buds north of the Missouri river, and there will be only a few scattering peaches and seedlings in all that district. South of the river and in southwest part of the state, we find the injury getting less and less. We can report from this district 50 to 75 per cent of a crop and at the same time some special localities report a full crop.

Plums being much more hardy in bud, give promise of a very fair crop indeed.

Cherry trees are loaded with blossoms and the prospects now are for at least a good average crop.

Grape prospects are still good.

The strawberry plantations suffered more last year than for many years. From reports received, the acreage will be less than one-half of last year, and many of these even will show a light crop. We can only report about one-third of the usual supply of berries from Missouri.

The raspberry and blackberry also were so badly injured by the drouth that we can count on only one-third to one-half the usual supply of these berries. While the blackberry vines did not die, yet they grew so little, being loaded with berries last year, that we cannot expect a full crop of them.

Orchard Work in Southern Illinois.

The department of horticulture of the Agricultural Experiment station at the University of Illinois is preparing for extensive field work in southern Illinois during the present season. Although there are many problems requiring investigation, the most important one now confronting the fruit growers is the control of the bitter rot of the apple, and this has been selected for thorough study this year. This disease has been most disastrous in its attack upon the apple crops of southern Illinois, and unless some effective means can be discovered to keep the fungus in check, it will render the production of apples a rather precarious business in many sections of the apple growing districts. The experiments this season will be conducted upon a practical scale in three large orchard plantations of which have been placed under the immediate control of the department by the owners. Orchards at Tonti, Flora and Tamaroa have this been secured. In addition, the department will have the hearty support and co-operation of a number of growers in southern Illinois; thus a thorough investigation of the subject is assured. The main line of work will consist of experimental spraying with two points in view; early spraying as a preventive measure will be tested, and the efficacy of later applications for the control of the disease after it makes its appearance will be determined. In order to facilitate the work headquarters will be established at Salem, where a horticultural and botanical laboratory will be fitted up.

Spraying Fruit Trees in Bloom.

One of the investigations being undertaken this season by the department of horticulture in the College of Agriculture at the University of Illinois has reference to the matter of spraying fruit trees in bloom. Preliminary experiments made last year indicate that the blossoms which are hit by the spray before being fertilized fail to set fruit, owing to the fact that the pistils are injured by the spraying material. The experiments this season have in view the determination of the nature and extent of the injury to both pistils and pollen, and the effect upon the quality and quantity of the crop.

Missouri Horticultural Meetings.

The summer meeting of the Missouri State Horticultural society will be held at Eldon June 10 to 12. The winter meeting will be held at Springfield December 2 to 4.

The Hessian Fly in Kentucky.

H. B. Hersey, Director Kentucky Weather Bureau: Since the recent advance in the price of wheat, this crop has become a favorite with Kentucky farmers and the acreage sown has steadily increased. With this increasing acreage, there has been a growing abundance of the Hessian fly. Last year's sowing suffered especially, owing to the prolonged period of mild weather at the time of planting. Probably very little of what was sown in some localities escaped injury. This injury suffered by late-sown wheat has led some farmers to become skeptical as to the advantage resulting from late planting. The skepticism is unwarranted by the facts, when all are known and considered. It is well enough understood here that when cold weather comes, and especially after a few very heavy frosts, the adult mosquitoes that frequent dwellings disappear, the Hessian fly is a very similar insect. It is somewhat smaller, but has the same general form, long and slender legs, etc. As an adult, it does not endure cold any better than a mosquito, and the fact explains why delaying planting as long as practicable results in less injury to wheat. The adult Hessian flies have simply placed their eggs on other wheat and have perished before the late planted wheat came up.

If you want to know what a ducat