

C. Kelley, of Jamestown, Dakota Ter., reports a flight as passing over that place without giving the direction of the flight. Large numbers of the common dragon-fly, *Diplax rubicundula* Say, were mingled with the locusts.

THE HESSIAN FLY.—In many parts of Central and Southern Illinois and in Missouri this insect has been reported as doing considerable damage, many farmers having to plow up their winter wheat in consequence. Mr. Thomas H. B. Moulder, of Cane Pump, Camden Co., Mo., sent the insect in the flax-seed state, the latter part of June, with the statement that he had forty acres of wheat which all fell or broke down about two weeks before ripening, from the insect's injuries. The western agricultural papers have had abundant notices of the Hessian Fly this season, but as our eastern entomologists, as a rule, do not see those journals, it is more than probable that this year would be put down by them as one in which the species was not heard of or known. The present year is, however, not exceptional, and more or less injury has been done by this insect in the West every year since we have given any attention to entomology.

THE GENUINE ARMY WORM IN THE WEST.—While the reports of the appearance of the army worm in New York, noticed in the July number of the NATURALIST, proved to be, as there stated, due to the injuries from *Nephelodes violans* and a supposed Pyralid larva,¹ the true army worm has since appeared in force in Central Illinois and adjacent parts of Indiana, doing much injury during the latter part of July, especially to oats. It has also been reported from Wisconsin and Michigan, but investigation indicates that in those two States other insects have been mistaken for the army worm. There is no question, however, about those in Illinois and Indiana, as we have received specimens from different correspondents, and have had the matter investigated by Mr. L. O. Howard, of the Department of Agriculture. From the facts which he gathered, it would seem that the autumn of last year was rather dry in the region devastated and that this spring was an average and favorable one, being neither unusually wet nor dry. It becomes very evident that the eggs were laid the present year, either by the moths that had hibernated or by a second generation of moths, the latter seeming, from all the facts gathered, most probable.

A NEW IMPORTED ENEMY TO CLOVER.—Again we have to report the sudden appearance in this country of an insect which, though well known in Europe for almost a century, was never known to do any serious harm there to crops. We refer to *Phytonomus punctatus* Fabr., a member of the Curculionid family,

¹ We have since bred the moth from this larva and it proves to be *Crambus vulgivagellus* Clem (= *chalybistrostris* Zell). Professor Lintner had previously bred a specimen of what he considered *Crambus exsiccatu*s. Both are common species of the genus.