

On the Insects which attack the Elms. By W. Spence, Esq. Hon. M.E.S. (from the *Arboretum Britannicum*.)

The Magazine of Natural History. No. 4. New Series. By the Editor.

The Athenæum, for March. By the Editor.

A Memoir upon the *Æstridæ*. By Bracy Clark, Esq. Presented by the Rev. F. W. Hope.

Specimens of the male and female of *Chiasognathus Grantii*, from the island of Chiloe. By Charles Darwin, Esq.

Specimens of the common House-fly of the United States; of *Tomicus chalcographus*, and of a species of *Ceratopogon* reared from the exudation from elm-trees. By W. Spence, Esq.

Mr. Hope exhibited, on behalf of Lord Prudhoe, specimens of the female and workers of a species of *Terres*, with a piece of red iron stone in which these insects appeared to have commenced the construction of their nest; also a very large species of *Mygale* in spirits.

C. Darwin, Esq. exhibited a fine series of specimens of five species of the genus *Carabus*, from the southern extremity of South America.

Mr. Westwood exhibited a series of drawings, chiefly of new species of North American Hymenopterous insects, obtained from the raw turpentine by Mr. Raddon.

He also called the attention of the meeting to the ravages of insects (apparently *Anobia*) upon the pictures in the National Gallery, and read an extract from the parliamentary Report upon this subject;\* and suggested that it might be serviceable to satu-

\* The parliamentary Report relative to the state of the pictures in the National Gallery contains the following evidence:

Mr. Seagar states that the Sebastian del Piombo has been occasionally eaten round the edge by a little worm, which is confined to a particular spot merely at the edge. He thinks the worms of very little importance.

Mr. Jno. Peel states that the Sebastian del Piombo is in the worst state of any in the collection, that it is going to decay, as fast as it possibly can, owing to the worms which have got into it, both the meal worm and the wood worm. He thinks the worms are now eating very fast, and in fact they are destroying the picture piecemeal. They are encroaching 6 to 18 inches from the edges towards the centre.

When asked whether relining would remove the insects, &c. ? Yes, it would completely.

Mr. E. Solly confirms Mr. Peel's statements with respect to the worms to be found in the Sebastian del Piombo, and states that he had in his possession last year two of the small beetle kind: they were given to him by a foreign professor, who took them off the picture himself.