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ADDRESS AT THE DEDICATION OF THE ENTOMOLOGY AND ZOOLOGY BUILDING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE¹

WHEN Professor Fernald began to teach entomology in the Maine State College at Orono, in 1872, there was only one other teacher of the subject in the United States, and that was Dr. Hagen, at Harvard, who had only an occasional student. Of earlier attempts to teach entomology on this side of the Atlantic there is little of record. W. D. Peck lectured at Harvard in the earlier years of the last century, and after 1831 T. W. Harris, while librarian of Harvard, had a private class in entomology, meeting one evening a week, and on Saturday afternoons went with his class in good weather on a ramble. Colonel Higginson writes: "Doctor Harris was so simple and eager, his tall spare form and thin face took on such a glow and freshness; he dwelt so lovingly on antennæ and tarsi and handled so fondly his little insect martyrs, that it was enough to make one love this study for life beyond all branches of natural science."

Teachers of natural history of those days had to cover botany, zoology, geology, human physiology, chemistry and natural philosophy. Collections and apparatus were practically non-existent. The publication of Harris's "Insects Injurious to Vegetation" in 1841, classic though it was, aroused no great interest in the study of insects, and it remained for Packard's "Guide to the Study of Insects," published in Salem in 1869 and written by a young and enthusiastic worker inspired by

¹ November 11, 1910.