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Pest Control, A. D. 1120. The following, said to have appeared in the Manchester Guardian and quoted in Living Age, July 19, 1924, was contributed by one of our members, Mr. Arthur B. Wells, of Bryn Athyn, Pa.

"In 1120 the Bishop of Laon pronounced a solemn sentence of excommunication against caterpillars and grasshoppers in his diocese, and as late as 1516 an admonition was issued by another bishop declaring: 'We grant the request of the inhabitants of Villenoce, and warn the caterpillars to retire within six days, in default of which we declare them accursed and excommunicated.' With a commendable sense of justice an advocate was sometimes appointed to plead the cause of the insects against that of the farmers before judgment was delivered."

We are unable to place these instances under any of the usual types of insect control; they would have to be called 'theological control.' It was especially thoughtful of the good bishop to allow the caterpillars six days to complete their feeding before retiring.

Lady Bugs. Again the little two-spotted coccinellid has appeared inside windows of houses early in February, and I have been asked, among other things, why they are called "lady bugs." Few realize that the "lady" refers to Our Lady, the Virgin Mary. My Comstock failed me in this instance, and I consulted Roesel von Rosenhof's *Insecten Belustigungen*, A. D. 1746-55, and learned that these best beloved of insects were as well liked then as now, especially among children, and that in both Germany and France they were known as "Mary's beetles," and as "God's little cows," and "God's little sheep," Roesel believes the name was given because they first appear at the time of the Feast of the Purification of the Virgin Mary, on February 2nd.—R. G. S.