

with a small shining black head and a dirty brown colored body, with a few small brown dots and fine hairs scattered over its surface. Its tenement consists of a dried-up, blackened leaf, portions of which are drawn together so as to make a rude case, the centre part of which, where his highness resides, is lined with silk. It is very fond of going just where you do not want it. It is partial to the blossoms and newly-formed fruit. If you have a new pear or apple fruiting, with a single bunch of blossom on it, which you are anxiously watching, by-and-by you find that several of the blossoms have set, and while you are flattering yourself that they are doing well, along comes this mischief-maker, pitches his tent alongside this very spot, and drawing the young fruit together with silken threads, holds high carnival among them and frustrates your hopes. Another of its tricks is to gnaw a hole into the top of the branch from which your bunch of blossom issues, and, tunnelling it down, cause the whole thing to wither and die. Often it contents itself with damaging the leaves only, and this one does not mind so much, drawing one after another around its small inside case, until it forms quite a belt of withered and blackened leaves.

Hand picking is the only remedy suggested for these, unless you can employ small birds, such as sparrows, in hunting them up for you.

The moth which this caterpillar produces is rather a pretty little thing. Its name we are not yet able to give. It measures, when its wings are expanded, about half an inch. Its fore wings are greyish brown, with a shining white, almost silvery band across the middle, widest on the front margin. The hind wings are plain pale blue, and both are prettily fringed with fine brown hairs, those on the hind wings longest. It appears on the wing from the middle of June until the early part of July. It probably lays its eggs on the leaves, and when the young worms appear, which is most likely early in the fall, they make their small inner silken case, and attaching themselves to some part of the tree, remain unobserved, and in this condition probably winter, awaking to new life and energy with the opening spring.

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### ICHNEUMON IN A SPIDER'S COCOON.

BY WM. COUPER, MONTREAL.

I inclose an ichneumonid spider's cocoon, which I found on the mountain of Montreal early in May last. When I opened the cocoon, the larvæ had a bluish colour and were quite active. It produced about forty specimens of the fly, which I send you, as I have no means at hand of determining the species. There is however a very nice investigation in regard to the economy and *modus operandi* of this little ichneumon. That is, how does it reach the spider's eggs? I cannot detect an ovipositor, and the body of the creature itself is only about a sixteenth of an inch long. The ♂s were