

The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. XXIX.

LONDON, JANUARY, 1897.

No. 1.

THE CRINKLED FLANNEL MOTH (MEGALOPYGE CRISPATA, PACK.).

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September 3rd, 1895, I received several nearly full-grown specimens of the curious, sluglike caterpillars of this beautiful moth, so aptly named by Professor Comstock, "the crinkled flannel moth." The cunning brown caterpillars were placed in a cage here at the insectary, where they fed freely on apple leaves, although they were feeding on quince when found at Worcester, Mass. Since Dr. Packard described the insect in its different stages in 1864, its life-history has been worked out in detail by Dr. Lintner (Ent. Contrib., 11., p. 138, 1870), and recently by Dr. Packard (Proc. Am. Phil. Soc. for 1894, p. 275). In this last paper Dr. Packard has described and figured in detail the extra two pairs of abdominal legs (seven pairs in all) possessed by the caterpillars, and some curious lateral glandular processes.

It is now our practice here at the insectary to photograph, so far as possible, every stage, phase, and habit of any insect that we may study. It is not often, however, that we have as good a subject as the crinkled flannel moth proved to be. The main object of this note is to introduce some of the lifelike pictures we were able to secure of this interesting and beautiful insect.

As shown at *a* on the plate, three of the cunning little caterpillars posed for their photograph, which represents their natural size and brings out their characteristic appearance much better than any other figures we have seen. They spun their tough brown cocoons (represented natural size at *a* on the plate), with the tightly fitting and ingenious door at one end, on September 5th. Upon prying open the door of one cocoon, the male pupa (shown natural size at *b* on the plate) was revealed. As the cage was kept in our warm office, the development of the insect was doubtless abnormally accelerated, for on December 21st and 24th the pupæ pushed open the little doors, worked their way nearly out of the cocoon, and the moths emerged. We aimed our "Premo" at one of the