

In gardens digging deeply and trenching in the fall is very useful, but in the flower beds where perennials are grown this is impracticable, and therefore recourse can only be made to disturbing the soil between the plants as much as possible in late autumn and early spring. Lawns and golf-links are frequently very badly affected as they are left for many years undisturbed; sometimes the roots of the turf have been so completely eaten off that the sod may be rolled up like a carpet. In such cases the best plan is to dig up the part affected and destroy the grubs, put in a fresh layer of soil and resod or sow with grass seed. For small patches, watering with kerosene emulsion, and washing it well in with plenty of water from the garden hose, will kill the grubs. Where large areas are found to be affected on golf-links or in pastures, the most effective plan is to enclose the place with hurdles and turn in a few young pigs; they will soon root out and devour all the grubs, and may then be removed to another spot.

WIREWORMS are the larvæ of Click-beetles, so called from their curious habit of springing up in the air with a "click" when laid upon their backs. The beetles are long and narrow, rounded above, with very short legs and usually dull gray or black in color. (Fig. 18). The grubs are long and cylindrical, with a very hard integument from which they get the name of "Wire-worms," and yellow or whitish in color. The life history is very similar to that of the White-grubs; they breed chiefly in old pastures, take two or three years to mature, and feed upon the roots of any plants that may be convenient to them; they are especially injurious to corn, and often may be found during the winter feeding inside potatoes in which they burrow great holes. No treatment of the soil with salt, poisons, &c., has any effect upon them; the only remedy is a short rotation of crops as in the case of White-grubs; plowing in August and cross-plowing again in September will destroy large numbers of them. In gardens, as the beetles usually spend the winter under any shelter they can find, clean cultivation, especially along the fences, is of great importance; in spring many may be destroyed by placing bunches of clover or weeds poisoned with Paris green under shingles or bits of board where the beetles go for shelter.

ASPARAGUS.

ASPARAGUS BEETLES. The two species, the Blue (*Crioceris asparagi*) and the 12-spotted (*C. 12-punctata*), have spread over a great part of Ontario during the last few years and in many places are very abundant. Both species are often to be found upon the same plant; the former (Fig. 19) is shining blue-black in color with creamy-white blotches on the wing covers which vary a good deal in size and shape, and sometimes form a cross of the ground color of the back; the sides and the thorax are dull red and the head black. The other species (Fig. 20) is the same length, about a quarter of an inch, but is somewhat stouter; the whole insect is dull red and polished and has twelve round black spots on the wing covers.