

on the "Noxious Insects of the State of New York," p. 176, for their information and guidance. "It is common to find upon the gooseberry bushes in our gardens, some of the young fruit of a prematurely ripe appearance, turning red and dropping to the ground. Some years much of the fruit is lost in this way. This premature ripening of the gooseberry is caused by insects puncturing and depositing their eggs in it. One of these appears to be a species of moth which I have not yet obtained in the perfect state." (Dr. Fitch here refers to *Pempelia grossulariæ*, the moth last described.) "The other is the larva of a midge, or a small two-winged fly, of the genus *Cecidomyia* and family TIPULIDÆ. On examining some of these affected gooseberries early in July, their pulp was found to be putrid, and infested with small maggots of a bright yellow colour and oval form, their bodies divided into segments by five impressed transverse lines, and their whole appearance being closely like the larva of the wheat midge found in the ears of wheat. These completed their transformations and gave out the winged flies in the latter part of the month of July.

"The gooseberry midge is scarcely a tenth of an inch in length to the tips of the closed wings. It is of a pale yellow colour, the thorax paler than the abdomen, and of a wax-yellow hue; eyes black; antennæ blackish, of twelve joints, separated by hyaline pedicels one-third as long as the joints, which are short, cylindrical, with rounded ends, their length scarcely more than double their breadth; legs straw yellow, faintly tinged with dusky towards their tips; wings hyaline, faintly tinged with dusky.

"It is probable that those flies which come out the latter part of July deposit a second crop of eggs in the gooseberries, or else resort to some other fruit of a similar nature, and that the larvæ which come from these eggs lie in the ground during the winter; for we do not perceive how, otherwise there can be flies in June to deposit their eggs in the young fruit.

"All fruit upon the gooseberry bushes which is found prematurely decaying and assuming a ripened appearance, and all which falls to the ground should be gathered and thrown into the fire, to destroy the worms which the berries contain. By attention to this measure the haunts of this insect in the garden can be easily broken up, whereas, if this step is neglected, the evil will be liable to continue year after year."

We have received from Mr. G. J. Bowles, of Quebec, a third enemy to the fruit of the currant; it is a small fly a species of *Trypeta*, whose larva lives within the berries. We hope by another season to be able to give the details of the history of this insect with an enlarged figure of the fly.

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