

worms be put into a box and taken home, where they can be easily watched, the cause of the sickness will soon be made out. Small white maggots bore their way out through the skin and settle upon the

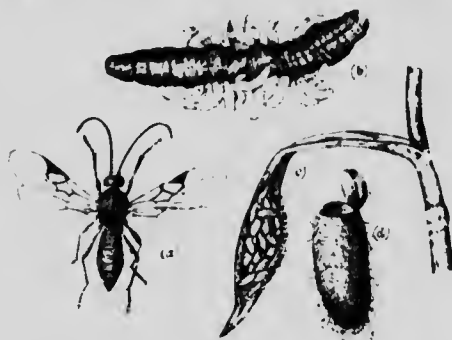


Fig. 51. (a) The 4-winged fly which lays her eggs within cabbage-worms; (b) the maggots coming out of cabbage-worm to spin their cocoons; (c) a mass of cocoons; (d) cocoon enlarged showing how the fly comes out by raising a lid.

poor caterpillar, as in Fig. 51; and if these maggots are watched, it will be found that they soon begin to spin silken cocoons about their bodies. The caterpillar has sometimes enough life left to crawl away from its tormentors an inch or two; but usually it dies beside them, and in a day or two no trace of its body can be found. If these cocoons be placed in a box for a few days, small four-winged flies will come out through lid-like openings at the end. These flies are *parasites*. By means of a needle on the hinder end of their body, they pierce the skin of the

cabbage worm and lay their eggs within its body; in a short time the eggs hatch small maggots, which grow and feed within the body of their host until they become full grown, when they come out as already described.

Frequently, too, some of the chrysalids, which we find in early spring, are dead and straw-colored. When one is broken open, many little, grayish maggots may be seen to fill up the entire space within; and, if the dead chrysalids are kept in a closed box for a short time, many little bronze-colored flies make their appearance. These flies also are parasites. Their eggs are always laid within the chrysalis case late in the fall, and the maggots which hatch from the eggs feed on the body of the chrysalid. In a short time they are full-grown, and fill up the space occupied by the body.

One other thing about this insect may be noted. Its breathing system is made up of tubes which branch through the body and supply air to the colorless blood. The openings of the tubes, or breathing pores, can be readily seen with the naked eye along each side of the body in the same line as the yellowish dots (Fig. 50.)

A good practical way of killing cabbage-worms, when they are spoiling the cabbages, is to dust a mixture of one pound of insect powder and



Fig. 52. The Fly and the Boy.