

24th of June, this branch was examined again, when quite a number of the young larvæ were found just hatched from the eggs which had then only been laid between four and five days; many of the eggs, however, were found dried up, for which no cause could be discovered.

FIG. 9.

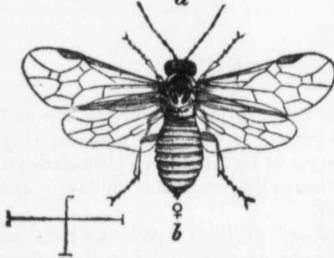
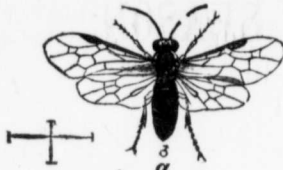
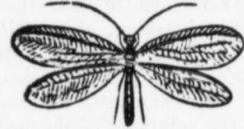


FIG. 10.



FIG. 11.



that date on the same bushes. About the last of July, many colonies of these newly hatched larvæ were found almost entirely destroyed by some undiscovered foe; probably some beneficial insect. Many leaves were found with the rows of empty egg shells on them and with a few holes eaten in them, but with the greater part of their substance uninjured, and with but little or no injury to the leaves surrounding; here evidently the greater portion of the larvæ had been destroyed soon after hatching.

On the 10th of July, while emptying out a number of the perfect flies from a box, searching for the empty pupa case of an ichneumon fly found dead in the box, two pupæ of ventricosus were found. They were very pretty objects, about one quarter of an inch long, of a very pale and delicate whitish green colour, becoming yellowish green at each extremity; remarkably transparent and delicate looking. The eyes were black and prominent; the feet, antennæ and mouth parts all separately cased, with the same glossy transparent covering almost crystal-like. The wing cases were similar in appearance, but of a little deeper green, bent under and reaching to the first abdominal segment. The pupa seems to be incapable of movement, a slight quivering only of the limbs could be detected under the microscope when pressed on. The feet all terminated in rounded knobs with no visible claws.

THE CURRANT MEASURING WORM *Ellopiæ (Abraxis), ribearia*, FITCH.

This insect has also been very abundant during the past summer. As early as the third week in May, the young larvæ were found quite common on red currant, gooseberry and black currant, and by the first of June many of them had grown to an inch in length; judg-

ing from the number of eggs found on either the red or black currant. On the 30th of June, the larvæ of a lace wing fly *Chrysopa* was observed sucking the juices from the young larvæ of *N. ventricosus*. This friendly helper was a little more than a quarter of an inch long, and had placed itself in the midst of a colony of the young currant worms and had already consumed several before it was taken in the act, Fig. 10 b represents one of their larvæ about half-grown, the fly is shown in Fig. 11. The female lace wing fly lays her eggs on long slender stalks, fig. 10 a, placing quite a group of them together; they are very pretty objects. It is supposed that these long stalks serve the purpose of keeping the unhatched eggs at a safe distance from the young larvæ first hatched who would, otherwise, probably eat them up. The perfect insect deposits these eggs quite rapidly. On the 18th of June, when out collecting with some friends, one of them captured a lace

wing fly and shut it up in a small box. In a few moments after, having occasion to look at it, he found one egg deposited; after walking a few yards with it to show it to us, which could not have occupied him more than three or four minutes, the box was opened again when it was found that three more eggs had been deposited, we had no opportunity of watching the further deposition or maturing of these eggs. The lace wing fly larvæ are very voracious, and if sufficiently numerous would prove formidable foes to the currant worm.

From about the 12th of May to the end of the season, the currant worms were very abundant. The earlier broods seem to confine their operations almost entirely to the gooseberry bushes, but after two or three weeks they attack the currant bushes with equal vigour. On the 16th of June, we noted the fact that the full grown larvæ in great numbers, others half grown or more and young colonies of the newly hatched larvæ were all to be found at

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either the red



FIG. 13.



is nearly $\frac{3}{10}$ ths of an inch long, blunt at each end. The face honeycombed, bright minute white spots brought under the December 1st, these developing larvæ still ability will not emerge during the year, it will bore will in any case

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The orgyia cat from which the larvæ are taken, usually those of the apical leaf or two by

