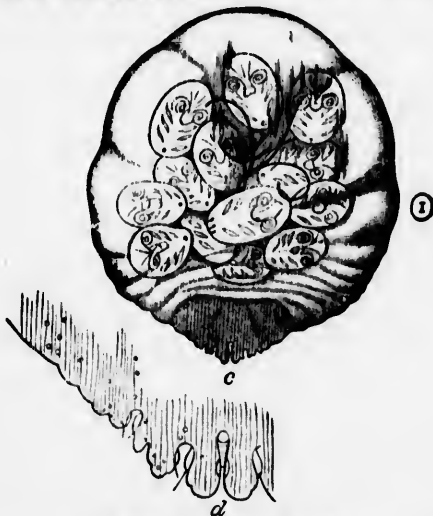


The scale of these insects is formed from a waxy secretion which commences soon after they come into existence, and forms a protective covering as development proceeds. In the earlier stages of growth the scale presents a somewhat grayish-yellow color, and gradually becomes darker.

The general appearance upon affected twigs is that of a grayish, slightly roughened scurfy deposit. This hides the natural reddish color of the young limbs of the peach, pear and apple. They sometimes even look as if sprinkled with ashes. If the scales are crushed, a yellowish oily liquid will appear from the crushed soft yellow insects beneath the scales. Examined in summer, many show orange-colored larvae, snowy-white young scales, mingled with old brown or blackened matured scales. This insect produces a peculiar reddening effect upon the skin of the fruit and of tender twigs. An encircling band of reddish discoloration around the margin of each female scale is very marked on the fruit of pears. The cambium layer of young twigs where scales are massed is usually stained deep red or purplish. Where the scales are few the purplish ring surrounding each is quite distinguishable.



CLEAN NURSERY STOCK.

It is certain that the scale was introduced on infested nursery stock. The same danger is to be feared again. Every person who buys stock should have it thoroughly examined before setting it out. The examination should be *thorough*, as the scales are minute and are easily overlooked. There is one method of treating stock that is sure to destroy all kinds of insect life,—but it is applicable only in nurseries and not by the farmer or fruit grower—it is the treatment with hydrocyanic acid gas. Nurserymen will do well to consider the advisability of treating all stock handled by them in this way. We give the following for their benefit:

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