

tubercles inconspicuous in most specimens. Thoracic and anal shields concolorous. Feet concolorous or slightly infuscated. Length when full grown 44 to 48 mm., width 6 to 8 mm.

These larvæ were very active through all their stages, and when full-fed wandered about a good deal. On July 26 most of them were full-grown, and many buried and pupated in oval cells about four inches below the surface.

*Pupa*.—19–23 mm. long, 5.5–6.5 mm. wide at widest part, rather slender, abruptly pointed at anal end; dark chestnut brown, shining. Anterior third of abdominal segments deeply and coarsely punctured. Cremaster conical, black, deeply roughened and grooved longitudinally, with a pair of slender terminal rigid bristles 0.7 mm. long, separate but close together, with the tip of each expanded into a button with recurved edges.

The pupæ were kept in a cool cellar all through the winter, and were brought up to the office about the end of April. The moths emerged from May 4 to 26, three or four weeks earlier than the species was collected outside.

*Food-plants*.—Up to Stage IV the larvæ were fed chiefly on clover, grass and dandelion, but as they did not seem to be growing fast enough they were changed to Bleeding-heart (*Dielytra spectabilis*), specimens having been found in considerable numbers on this plant at the Experimental Farm. Other plants which seemed to be particularly attractive to these caterpillars in a state of nature were Larkspurs, of which the seed-capsules were much injured, Spinach and Cabbage. They are, however, rather general feeders, but being nocturnal in habit, their food-plants were rather difficult to detect.

### THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE CULICIDÆ.

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In the revision of my Manual of North American Diptera, now in press, it has been necessary for me to examine critically the recent publications on the classification of the Culicidæ. Although I have never ceased to be an interested reader of dipterological literature, I was hardly prepared for the flood that has nearly swamped me in the attempt to reach *terra firma*.

It is unfortunate that, among the score or more who have written upon the classification of this family within the past six years, nearly all have been amateurs in entomological taxonomy, some, indeed, whose only papers on entomology have been those proposing new "subfamilies." I