

mies the Aphis-lions (*Chrysopa*) and the Lady-bird beetles, which in both larval and adult stages devour immense numbers of them.

The best remedy for the insect is a thorough application of the lime-sulphur wash in early spring, as recommended for several other insects. Lime alone would be effective, but the addition of sulphur helps to clean off the black fungus, and the complete mixture serves at the same time for the eradication of scale and other pests. If it should be found necessary to treat the trees in summer kerosene emulsion will kill the nymphs, but it is likely at the same time to kill our friends the Aphis-lions and Lady-bird beetles, and may also injure the foliage.



Fig. 37. Pear-tree Psylla, greatly enlarged (after Marlatt).



Fig. 39. Pear and cherry-tree Slug.

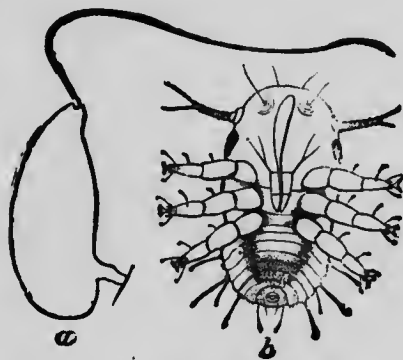


Fig. 38. Pear-tree Psylla; a, egg; b, nymph; greatly enlarged (after Marlatt).

The PEAR-TREE SLUG (*Selandria cerasi*), Fig. 39. Leaves of Pear-trees may sometimes be noticed hanging withered and brown on the twigs, and others with transparent patches where all ought to be green. A close inspection of the latter will usually reveal a small slimy blackish or deep greenish slug, shaped somewhat like a tadpole and having an odor resembling that of red ink. This is the larva of a saw-fly, a glossy black four-winged creature about one-fifth of an inch in length. The fly lays her eggs early in June in slits which she makes in the leaves by means of her saw-like ovipositor; these hatch out about a fortnight later, and the slugs begin to devour the leaves, eating out irregular patches and leaving only the skin of the under surface. A second brood is to be found in August. Spraying with powdered white hellebore in water or with Paris green will speedily destroy the slugs. Dusting with lime is also recommended on account of its burning properties. Dust of other kinds, such as ashes, road-dust, etc., have been tried, but they merely stick to the slimy surface, and when the insect moults, which it does four times, it leaves its old skin and the dust behind. This insect is equally common on Cherry-trees and sometimes on Plum.