

THE MAPLE COTTONY PHENACOCCLUS.

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Phenacoccus acericola, n. sp.

Since 1880, when the above-named species was found and described as the European *Pseudococcus aceris*, Geoff. (*Phenacoccus*), by Miss Emily A. Smith, it has until recently been supposed to have been that species.

The latter part of 1890, Prof. Cockerell wrote me that he believed our species was distinct from that of Europe, and suggested that I should describe it as new if upon further investigation no reason appeared to the contrary. At the meeting of the Association of Economic Entomologists of 1891, at Denver, Colorado, he speaks of it as being without a name.

As I knew of no place in the vicinity where I live, I asked Dr. George Dimmock, of Springfield, Mass., if he would kindly collect and send me some specimens for study, which he did last season. The following description is from the material sent, together with some descriptive notes taken from Dr. Howard's excellent account given in "Insect Life." The first account of the *Maple Cottony Phenacoccus* appeared in the "North American Entomologist," April, 1880, by Miss Emily A. Smith. The second was by Prof. Comstock in his work published in the annual report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for 1881, and the third by Dr. Howard in "Insect Life," 1894. It seems quite evident that Dr. Howard had some doubt about the identity of the species, and calls attention to some of the characters which seemed to differ from Signoret's account of the European *Phenacoccus aceris*, Geoff.

Our American species when seen on the leaves appear as an irregular oval cottony mass which adheres to anything touching it and resembles very much the cottony ovisac of a *Pulvinaria*. The cottony material is about 6 mm. in diameter and covers the insect and her eggs.

Length of ♀ about 5 mm. long, 3 broad, plump, light yellow. Boiled in caustic potash, they turn orange red. The internal juice pressed out, the skin is colourless. The upper surface of the body is more or less covered with spinnerets and these are more dense at the posterior extremity. The margin of the body has several groups of short spines. Antennæ 9 jointed, measuring in μ :