

(*Pristiphora*

by Mr. G. J.

In figure 30 of this species, behind it show the reader will be between the e. There are, ed entomologist on of the veins different family, palpable differ- ts, the native imported spe- Benjamin D. 3, some addi- never bears es it ever go d leaves of the same season, its eggs upon

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and the second eberry, they hen numer- be treated essrs. Walsh ates of Illi-

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itself more It may be ession—for every step,

FIG. 31.



Colours—(1 and 2) yellow, black and white; (3) Mahogany brown.

to the progress of this branch of fruit culture. In our own neighbourhood we had not met with it in any profusion until some three or four years since, when we found that in some gardens it had stripped the currant bushes quite bare, and since then its presence has become more general.

When full grown, this caterpillar measures from an inch to 1-1-10th inches in length. Its head is medium sized, white, bilobed, with a large round black spot on the upper part of each lobe, a short black stripe across the front, a little above the mouth, with a small spot of the same colour on each side of it. Its jaws also are black, and there are a few short black hairs scattered over its surface. The body above is whitish, with a number of black spots of different sizes on each ring or segment. There is a wide yellow stripe down the back, and another of the same character along each side, but somewhat broken. The under side is white, with a slight tinge of pink, and also spotted with black, with a wide yellow stripe down the middle. The feet are blackish, pro-legs yellow, dotted with black.

There is but one brood of this insect in a year, hence there is no probability of its ever becoming so formidable a pest as the imported saw-fly. It survives the winter in the egg state, on the twigs and limbs of the bushes, and remains in this condition until late in May, or when the bushes are in full leaf. Then the eggs are hatched, and, in about three or four weeks after, reach their full size. With us, they are usually full grown from the 20th to the 25th of June. They then descend to the ground and burrow a short distance under the surface, where their bodies become much shortened, and then soon change into dark brown chrysalids about half an inch long, in which state they usually remain from fourteen to twenty days, when the moth is liberated. The duration of the chrysalis state given is the result of observations on the insect in confinement. A considerable number of specimens which we reared entered the chrysalis state on the 23rd and 24th of June, and produced the moths from the 7th to the 12th of July.

FIG. 32.



Colour—Pale yellow, with dusky spots.

The moth, (see figure 32,) is of a pale yellowish colour, with several dusky spots, varying in size and form, and more prominent in some specimens than in others; sometimes they are so arranged as to form one or two irregular bands across the wings; These latter when expanded measure about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Soon after the moths' escape they pair, and then the female deposits her eggs on the twigs and branches, where they endure the remaining heat of summer without hatching, and also the piercing cold of winter without being destroyed, awaiting the arrival of their proper time for hatching the following spring.

In figure 31 this caterpillar is well shown in various attitudes. This excellent figure, as well as many others which illustrate these reports, is from a drawing from nature by C. V. Riley, State Entomologist of Missouri. Besides its peculiar method of walking, this larva possesses the power of spinning at will, from its hinder extremity, a silken thread, by means of which it is enabled to lower itself suddenly from the bush when danger threatens, and remains suspended, as shown at (2), until it can safely return to its former position; in this respect, also, differing from the saw-fly larvæ, which have no such provision.

This measuring worm is a native insect, which, in former times, was confined to the wild gooseberry and currant bushes in the woods, where we still frequently find them. On the 26th of May, of the present year, we found a quantity of them, about half grown, destroying the foliage of the wild gooseberries, but since the introduction and cultivation in our gardens of the European varieties of the gooseberry and currant, this insect has taken a wonderful liking to them, and has increased prodigiously as compared with its former numbers, until now, in many districts, it has become a serious impediment