

of the curved horn. The body is dotted with numerous greenish or yellowish white spots. This larva is liable to vary in its colours to a surprising extent. Many persons from noticing in their gardens or fields worms which are so totally dissimilar in their colours, imagine that there are two or three distinct species attacking their potatoes. The common colour is leek green; from this it varies to a lighter yellowish green, and on the other hand to various shades of darker brownish and blackish green. In other instances the green wholly vanishes and the worm is pale or deep amber brown, blackish brown, purplish black or pure black. In these brown and black varieties the head sometimes retains its normal green colour. The curved horn is, however, uniformly black. The larva grows rapidly and is a most voracious feeder, they usually reach their maturity during July and August. Their presence on the vines is generally first indicated to us by the large pellets of excrement which it drops, some of which frequently lodge in the forks of the stalks or adhere to the leaves. When fully matured the larva leaves the vines and buries itself in the ground, generally at the depth of several inches. Here it undergoes its transformation into the pupa or chrysalis form. This latter, see fig. 83, is of a bright, glossy, chestnut colour, and is particularly noticeable from its head or forward end being bent over and prolonged until it touches and firmly adheres to the breast, forming a loop somewhat after the fashion of the handle of a pitcher. This loop is merely the sheath of the tongue, whose length we have before alluded to. The pupa stays underground until the succeeding summer when being by the warmth of the sun fully matured the moth burst its pupa shell and forces its way upwards, and having reached the surface finds some convenient plant where it clings and remains until its wings are fully developed, and the twilight arouses it to fly in search of food. In the Southern States the tobacco suffers much from a very similar insect to the one we have just described. For both insects hand picking is the best remedy. The larva is particularly subject to the attacks of a small Ichneumon fly which helps to keep these insects in check.