

INSECTS AFFECTING THE PEACH.

The war against injurious insects is almost heart-breaking to the peach-grower, as the special enemies of this tree make such serious attacks upon it and its less robust constitution causes it to succumb much more readily than the sturdy Apple and other fruit-trees. It is particularly unfortunate, therefore, that the *San José Scale* should have become established in those southern counties of Ontario where alone the peach will thrive. This deadly insect should be constantly watched for and the prescribed treatment applied as soon as the proper time has arrived. If neglected, the tree is doomed to an early death and might as well be cut down and burnt at once. Where peaches are grown on a large scale, it will pay to fumigate with hydrocyanic acid gas, for which it is necessary to have tents large enough to cover an entire tree. As this is a very dangerous poison, the fumes being destructive of all animal life, it should not be employed by unskilled persons. With proper care and the requisite knowledge, it may be used to great advantage and will be found to clear the trees of injurious insects of every kind that may be upon them.

THE PEACH LECANIUM SCALE (*Lecanium persicæ*). On the twigs and branches may sometimes be found large, soft-shelled, brown scales, very convex and resembling in size and shape the half of a split pea. Like all other scale insects, these live by sucking the sap of the tree and when numbers are present impair its vitality very much. The remedies prescribed for the other scales are equally effective for this. Lecanium scales of many kinds may be found on most fruit and forest trees and upon a great variety of shrubs and plants; usually they are not very numerous or injurious, but occasionally they occur in immense numbers, crowded thickly together, and inflicting much damage. If the affected tree cannot be treated in the prescribed manner, it had better be cut down and burnt in order that it may not become a centre of danger to others. Several of the species do not confine themselves to any one kind of tree, but will spread to all that may be within reach.

THE TERRAPIN SCALE (*Eulecanium nigrofasciatum*), Fig. 48, to which public attention has recently been drawn in the daily press, is a hard hemispherical scale, red in the middle, with black streaks, proceeding to the sides and a black margin; the colors and markings vary to some extent, and individuals may be found with very little red and others with little or no black. When observed on a tree they are usually in immense numbers, thickly clustered together and often overlapping each other. In shape and markings they bear some resemblance to a turtle and have therefore received the name of "the Terrapin Scale." The specimens that we have seen were sent in from St. Catharines, Windsor and Walkerville, and in each case were found on Maple-trees. Many of them were perforated, showing that they had been destroyed by a minute parasitic insect. This scale is widely prevalent in the Northern and Eastern States but is not common yet in Ontario.