



Fig. 36. Nectria Canker.

INSECTS AFFECTING THE PEAR.

Most, if not all, of the insects that attack the Apple are equally injurious to the Pear, but there are a few additional kinds to which attention must be drawn.

THE PEAR-TREE PSYLLA (*Psylla pyricola*), Figs. 37, 38. Many complaints have been made of late years respecting injuries to Pear-trees by this minute insect. It belongs to the same order as the plant-lice and scale insects which are so prolific and destructive. The winter is passed in crevices of the bark, or in rubbish or other shelter, by the mature winged fly, which is brick-red in color and about an eighth of an inch in length. About the middle of April the fly comes out of its hiding place and lays its yellow eggs on buds and twigs wherever there is a crease or scar to afford protection. In three weeks' time the eggs hatch and the nymphs attach themselves to the leaves or opening buds. Like the aphids, they secrete large quantities of "honey dew" which drips upon the foliage and branches below, and becomes covered with a black fungus growth. As there are several broods, probably four, in the year, the colonies increase and multiply enormously, and are a heavy drain upon the vitality of the tree. Fortunately they are kept somewhat in check by their natural ene-