

concluded. The requisite alterations were then made in the by-laws to bring them into conformity with the new constitution.

Mr. W. Saunders read a letter from Mr. J. T. Whiteaves, Secretary of the Natural History Society, of Montreal, stating that Mrs. Ritchie had accepted the offer of the London branch for the purchase of the cabinet of insects belonging to the late Mr. A. S. Ritchie.

Several of the members brought with them excellent microscopes, which added greatly to the interest of the proceedings. Many entomological objects were thus submitted to high magnifying powers, and the marvellous details of their structure clearly shown.

ENTOMOLOGICAL GLEANINGS.

[PAPER NO. 4.]

BY W. SAUNDERS, LONDON, ONT.

The eggs of the Vaporer Moth, Orgyia leuco-tigma.

Attentive readers of the Entomological portion of the late Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for the Province of Ontario, will have noted the fact already well known to Entomologists that the female moth of this species is wingless, and lays her eggs on the outside of the cocoon from which she has escaped. Last fall the moths were unusually common, and their nests of eggs are now so abundantly distributed among our fruit trees, that unless some effort is made to destroy them, the larvæ will probably be exceedingly numerous and destructive during the approaching season.

Fig. 10 represents the full grown caterpillar of this species, which, when

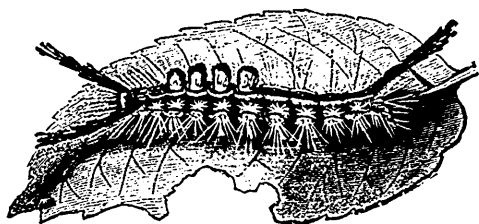


Fig. 10.

about to change to chrysalis, selects a leaf on which to undergo its next transformation, and this in such a position that, while the chrysalis is firmly attached to it on the one side, it is firmly secured by silken threads to the under side of a branch on the other, thus se-

curing the leaf from falling to the ground in the autumn. The female, after its escape from the cocoon, rarely moves more than a few inches from it, waiting the attendance of the male moth, after which she at once commences to place her eggs in the position already indicated. But how are the eggs, when laid, kept in their place on the top of the cocoon? Dr. Fitch says that the eggs are extruded in a continuous string, which is folded and matted together so as to form an irregular mass. On removing this mass of eggs from its place of attachment, the surface of the cocoon appears covered with fragments of a transparent gelatinous looking substance, which has evidently been applied in a fluid state.