

but at night they are active. The eggs are white, and are laid in batches in cracks of the woodwork of the room.

Wooden beds should be discarded, and benzine should be carefully applied at intervals to all the crevices, small as well as large.

CARPET-BETLES.—There are two species, the Buffalo Carpet-beetle (*Anthrenus scrophulariæ*) (Fig. 5) and the Black Carpet beetle (*Attagenus picus*). The former has become very abundant in many sections of the province, and considerable damage has been reported. The grub, or larva, does the harm, and is readily recognized by the stiff brown hairs that clothe the body. Its length is about one-quarter inch. Its habit is to cut long slits in the carpet, working along the cracks in the floor.

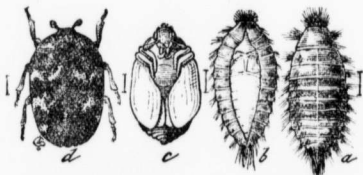


Fig. 5.—Buffalo Carpet-beetle, all stages, much magnified.

The adult is a small, rather pretty beetle, about one-fifth of an inch in length. The colour is black, mottled with red and white markings. Many of the adults appear in the fall, and pass the winter as adults, while others appear in the spring. In heated houses the beetles continue to appear throughout the winter. In spring thousands of the beetles may frequently be observed on the blossoms of *Spiræas* and many other plants; and no doubt many adults fly into houses from these plants through the open windows.

To rid an infested house of these beetles, it is necessary to take up the carpets, thoroughly beat them out of doors, and to spray them with benzine. The floors should be swept carefully, the cracks dusted out, sprayed with benzine, and filled up with putty or plaster of Paris. Since damage is done mainly along the borders of the rooms, the carpets should be examined from time to time. It is advisable to replace the carpets with rugs, as the latter are easily taken up and beaten.

The Black Carpet-beetle is frequently met with. The larva has a long tuft at the hind end of the body, and is readily distinguished from the Buffalo Carpet-beetle. The adult is a small, oval, black beetle, and has been often noted as a pest in museums and flour-mills, in addition to dwelling-houses.