

THE APPLE MAGGOT.

BY I. F. ABBOTT, LEWISTON, MAINE, U.S.A.

IN the January number of the HORTICULTURIST, in your remarks upon the *Trypeta Pomonella*, you speak of allowing sheep and hogs the run of the orchard to help destroy this pest; and also say that the worms leave the apple and burrow in the ground before passing to the proper stage. My observations regarding this insect have led me to think that but very few apples fall from the trees as a result of the presence of the apple maggots. We find both insects, the Codling Worm and the maggot, infesting the same specimens of fruit. As a result of the presence of the former, many apples come to the ground, and hence your advice, to give the sheep and hogs—particularly the former—the run of the orchard as late as practicable before harvesting the apples, is always in order, for, doubtless, many of both species of insects would be destroyed, though it is pretty well established that a majority of the Codling Worms leave the apples before they fall. But I believe the chances are, that larger numbers of the *Trypetas* than of the Codling Worm would be destroyed by the animals, from the circumstances, which my observations have shown to be the fact, that a part, at least, of these maggots pupate in their burrows within the apples they infest. I have several times had specimens thus change in confinement, usually

about one half remaining within the apple, the remainder crawling out and into a corner of the box in which they were confined.

Frequently I have found specimens of the maggot in pupa form in apples in winter when brought from the cellar. All of which goes to show that, like the Codling Worms, many leave the apple to pupate, and a portion remain in the fruit later—perhaps a later crop of worms.

I am in hopes the use of arsenical insecticides upon our orchards is going to be the means of staying the progress of the *Trypeta* as well as of the Codling Worms. Very few of our Maine orchardists have the courage to spray their trees with London purple or Paris green, but a few, like Mr. Pape, President of the Maine Pomological Society, and a few other prominent and progressive orchardists, have done so, and with the best results. If spared till another season, I propose to experiment in this line and carefully note results.

Mr. P. M. Augur, of Connecticut, stated, at the Winter meeting of our State Pomological Society, that in the season of 1887, orchards sprayed with Paris green for the Codling Worms were remarkably free from the ravages of the *Trypeta*. May we not hope that this will prove the sovereign remedy for both these pests of the orchard.