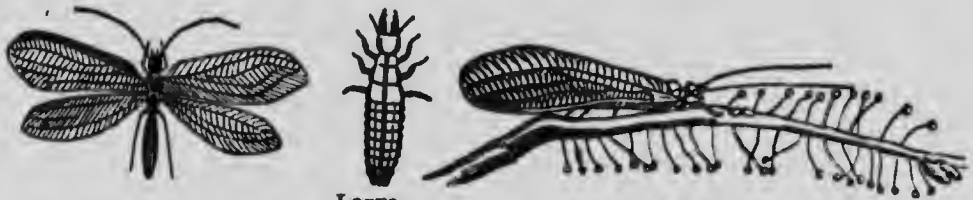
CONVERGENT LADYBIRD (*Hippodamia convergens*).

(FIG. 6.)

This beetle works destruction to aphis and scale insects, and is quite common.

LACE-WINGED FLY (*Chrysopa oculata*).



Larva. Adult.

(FIG. 7.)

When the Ladybirds are great destroyers of scale and aphis, the larvæ of the Lace-winged flies rid trees and plants of million of *Aphidæ*. The fly has a slender body, with delicate, gauze-like wings, and its colour is generally green with golden eyes. The eggs are deposited on pedicles and laid in the midst of a group of aphides. The larva is supplied with sharp mandibles, with which it attacks the aphis.

SYRPHUS FLY, HOVERING FLY.

Fig. 1. Natural size. Fig. 2. Natural size. Fig. 3.

(FIG. 8.)

In the above cuts Fig. 1 represents the fly; Fig. 2, magnified, the case in which it transforms into a fly; and Fig. 3, magnified, the larva.

The Syrphus flies are also great destroyers of aphides. The larvæ feed entirely upon aphides, and appear and disappear as the aphides appear and disappear. The larva is a footless, eyeless, flattened, transversely wrinkled, gaily coloured, green and purple maggot, having a very extensile body, which enables it to reach up and grasp the aphis with its peculiar looking mouth. The single egg, deposited in a group of aphides, hatches forty-eight hours after it is laid, and the larva becomes full-grown and transformed into a pupa in five or six days. The reason of this extremely rapid development in the first two stages, the egg and the larva, is explained when we consider [illegible]lief is the existence of the aphis, and how suddenly its colonies appear and disappear. When the larva is actively feeding, it destroys dozens of aphides, one after the other, and its body changes colour. When filled to repletion the larva falls into