

36. STRIPED CUCUMBER BEETLE (*Diabrotica vittata*, Fab.)—As soon as squash, cucumber or melon plants appear above the ground they are attacked by small, yellow-striped beetles, which if not noticed will soon destroy the plants.

*Remedies.*—Sifting dry ashes and Paris green (1 to 50) over the vines is the best application to protect the vines. Ashes alone are also useful. A remedy much adopted in the United States is described by Dr. C. M. Weed in a Bulletin of the Ohio Agricultural Exper't. Station for September, 1889, and consists of covering the vines with a piece of gauze or cheesecloth, supported by two or three sticks stuck into the ground, and with the edges held down by a handful of earth on each side.

37. TURNIP FLEA-BEETLE (*Phyllotreta vittata*, Fab.)—There is, perhaps, no insect better known or more execrated by farmers than "the fly" or flea-beetle of the turnip (Fig. 28). The perfect beetles, black, with white marks on the wings, pass the winter beneath rubbish or clods of earth, and appear on various plants of the cress family early in spring. As soon as the young turnips appear they attack the seed leaves, and very frequently destroy the whole crop. The grub state is passed under ground on the roots of plants of the cress family.

At Fig. 28. The perfect beetle and the grub are shown much enlarged.

*Remedies.*—I have found the most successful treatment of this insect to be the sowing of perfectly dry land plaster or ashes, with 50 parts of which 1 part of Paris green had been mixed (Remedy I). Other experimenters speak highly of a decoction of waste factory tobacco, 1 lb. in 2 or 3 gallons of water. This latter remedy is useful upon Garden Cress, where Paris green cannot be used. See also remedy for No. 36.



Fig. 28.