The Codling Worm.

Every fruit-grower is, of course, perfectly familiar with this destructive and most troublesome insect. It is wide spread over the whole Dominion from Nova Scotia to British Columbia, and destroys every year a large proportion of the crop. The accompanying wood cut (Fig. 45) illustrates its mode of burrowing into the fruit of the apple.

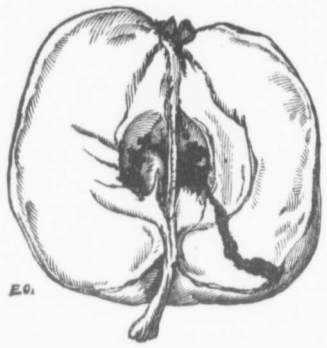

Fig. 45.

For a long time it was supposed that the only satisfactory remedy for this pest was to entrap the worms, when about to change to the pupa state, by means of bandages of carpet, cloth, or sacking tied around the trunks of the trees during the months of June, July and August. These bandages require to be removed every few days and passed through an ordinary laundry "wringer" in order to kill all worms or pupæ that may be attached to them, and then replaced on the trees. In a large orchard this plan involves an immense deal of continuous labour. Happily, it has recently been discovered that the insect may be kept under control far more easily and effectively by the use of Paris green. A very small quantity of the poison diluted in water—some experimenters say as little as a table-spoonful in a barrel of water is sufficient—should be sprayed upon the trees as soon as the blossoms have well passed maturity, and before the young fruit has turned down from its increasing weight. Animals should, of course, be kept away from the orchard till after heavy rains have removed any danger to them from the poison. This remedy is supposed to operate in two ways—first, by killing the young worms that consume what may be attached to a blossom, and, secondly, by causing the parent moth to abstain from laying her eggs on trees that have been so treated. However this may be, we are informed that the remedy is most effective, and we strongly recommend our readers to try it during the coming season.

These notes on "remedies" have extended to so much greater length than the writer anticipated that he must defer the continuation of them to another year, by which time he hopes to be able to give the results of further experiments made with reference to many more of our most obnoxious insects.