

whitish glossy surface. As squeezed from the body of the insect they are not much more than half this size, which indicates that they must expand considerably after being laid. The exterior of the egg is thin and elastic, and contracts and shrivels up as the young larva escapes; the usual duration of the egg stage is from a week to ten or twelve days.

The larvae or worms, when first hatched, are about one-twelfth of an inch long, with a greenish white, semi-transparent body and a large head, having a dark round spot on each side. At first they eat small holes in the leaf on which they are placed, as shown at 2 and 3, fig. 17, feeding in company, from 20 to 40 on a leaf, the soft parts of which they soon consume, leaving nothing but the frame-work; as they increase in size they eat the veins as well down nearly to the foot-stalks, and, travelling from leaf to leaf, they soon strip the branch on which they have been located, when they spread to other parts of the bush, which is sometimes stripped quite bare of foliage by these marauders in a few days.

Fig. 18 represents the larva nearly full grown. It is then about three-fourths of an inch long, with a black head and a bluish green body,

Fig. 18.



becoming yellowish on the hinder segments and on the sides. Its whole upper surface is thickly covered with small, shining black tubercles or raised dots, from each of which arises a single black hair. Low down on each side, in a line with the spiracles, is a row of larger black tubercles from each of which there arises several short black hairs; the terminal segment has a patch of black above. The under surface is pale bluish green, growing yellowish towards the extremities,

with a few faint brownish dots; feet nearly covered with patches of black. Prolegs—of which there are seven pairs—pale greenish. After the last moult, just before entering the chrysalis state, it becomes of a uniform plain green color, tinged with yellow.

Having completed its growth, its chief concern now is in the selection of a suitable place in which to pass the chrysalis stage of its existence.