

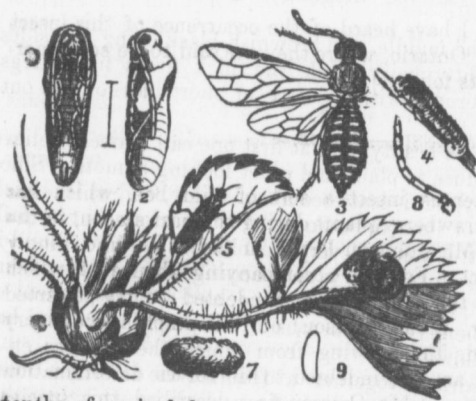
cumbs till after it has spun up and become a chrysalis, for I have always obtained the ichneumon from the chrysalis. The other parasites are smaller and work differently. They cause the larva of the Smeared Dagger to die when about full grown, and its contracted and hardened skin, which may often be seen during winter, with the head attached, fastened to the twigs of apple and willow trees, forms a snug little house, where the parasite undergoes his transformations, and through which it gnaws a round hole to escape the latter part of April. One of these flies (*Aleiodes Rileyi*, Cresson) is of a uniform reddish yellow colour. The other is a black fly of about the same size, but belonging to an entirely different genus, *Polysphincta*."

The only artificial remedy which has been recommended is that of hand-picking.

10. THE STRAWBERRY FALSEWORM, (*Empkytus maculatus*, NORTON).

This insect, although it has not yet been observed in Canada, will very probably be with us before long. It has been common in the adjoining Western States for some time past, and as the perfect insect is winged, and during the hotter portion of the day quite active, and since the strawberry now is so widely cultivated, there is nothing to hinder the spread of this destructive insect, the habits of which it will be well for us to fully understand, so that we may know how to treat the enemy on its first appearance. We know that a near relative of this insect, the gooseberry saw-fly (*Nematus ventricosus*) has spread in a short time over a large section of our Province. Since we have had no personal experience with this foe to the strawberry grower, we shall avail ourselves of an excellent description of its life, history and habits, written by Mr. C. V. Riley, of St. Louis, Mo., and published in the first volume of the "American Entomologist," p. 90.

Fig. 14.



The adjoining Figure 14, drawn from nature by Mr. Riley, admirably illustrates this insect in its various stages. 1 shows the under side of the pupa or chrysalis. 2, a side view of the same. 3, an enlarged view of the perfect fly, showing the arrangement of the veins of its wings. 4, the larva or worm crawling. 5, the perfect fly of natural size. 6, the larva at rest. 7, the cocoon. 8, one of the antennae of the insect enlarged, showing the joints. 9, an enlarged egg of this insect. The fly belongs to the order Hymenoptera, and is known in popular language as one of the saw-flies. The larva is a soft dirty yellow worm, which feeds externally on the leaf of the strawberry. It is a little more than six-

tenths of an inch long when full grown. Its head is of a more decided yellow colour than the rest of its body, and usually has a dark brown spot above, one nearly of the same size at the upper front, and two rather smaller ones at each side, joined by a brown line. It has twenty-two legs.

"The parent flies may be seen hanging to and flying around strawberry vines about the beginning of May, in North Illinois, Iowa and Michigan, in all three of which States we know them to occur. They are dull and inactive in the cool of the morning and evening, and at these hours are seldom noticed. They are of a pitchy black colour, with two rows of large transverse dull whitish spots upon the abdomen. The female, with the saw-like instrument peculiar to the insects of the great family (*Tenthredinidae*) to which she belongs, deposits her eggs by a most curious and interesting process, in the stems of the plants, clinging the while to the hairy substance with which these stems are covered. The eggs are white, opaque and 0.03 of an inch long, and may be readily perceived upon splitting the stalk, though the outside orifice at which they were introduced is scarcely visible. They soon increase somewhat in bulk, causing a swelling of the stalk, and hatch in two weeks—more or less, according to the temperature—and from the mid-

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