



ANTHOMYIA BRASSICÆ.

- a. The female fly magnified. The cross lines show the natural size.  
 b. The Chrysalis magnified.  
 c. The maggot magnified.

friend for looking downcast, for he had considerable invested in time and manure and land.

It seems that there is an extensive family which pass their maggot or larval life in preying upon our early vegetables. The family name is *Anthomyia*. The *Anthomyia raphani*, or radish-fly, is so nearly like the common house-fly, as to be easily mistaken for that ubiquitous individual. It lays its eggs at the crown of the young radish, and the maggots hatching therefrom work speedy devastation to the root.

*A. brassicæ* is the cabbage-fly, and differs from *raphani* in being smaller and brighter colored. One writer says "it is found through the summer, and is the parent of a maggot which has been known to lay waste whole fields of cabbages by diseasing the roots on which they feed, as well as the base of the stalk." Successive generations are feeding until November, the latter families lying in the pupa state through the winter, and probably some of the flies survive that season secreted in holes and crevices

"When the cabbage leaves assume a leaden or yellow color and droop in mid-day from the effect of the sun, such

plants being diseased should be taken up, carried away and burned, and brine or lime put in the holes. Gardeners in some instances have collected large quantities of the pupa by drawing away the earth from the roots."

The *Anthomyia* unlike house and blow-flies, dislike intense smells, and the means of their prevention or destruction is found in this fact. The radish-fly is prevented from depositing its eggs around the young plants, by sprinkling the bed with diluted carbolic acid at intervals of a few days. The method of dealing with the cabbage maggot is thus described by Prof. A. J. Cook :

"A small hole is made near the cabbage with a walking-stick or other rod, and about one-half a teaspoonful of the liquid—bi-sulphide of carbon—poured in, when the hole is quickly filled with earth and pressed down with the foot. In every case the insects were killed without injury to the plants."

The bi-sulphide of carbon is very volatile, and if not carefully corked will throw off vapour which readily ignites and explodes when brought in contact with fire. It will be seen that two different methods are used, that for the