

The basket-worms of the Southern States are instances also of creatures that construct coverings for themselves. *Thyridopteryx ephemeraeformis* (Haworth) is found on a variety of trees. The young larvæ appear in May. Each of them forms a case of pieces of the leaves it feeds upon, held together by a silken web. As it increases in size it enlarges its covering, till at length it hangs like a small purse or bag. When about to undergo the pupal change the insect fastens its case to a twig. The female moth is apterous. After she has been impregnated she retires into her case to lay her eggs; having laid them she falls to the ground and perishes. The male is black, and has transparent wings.

*Platæticus Gloveri* (Packard) in its habits closely resembles the insect just described. It is found in Florida, feeding upon the orange and the fig. The female moth is light-coloured, and apterous. The male is an elegant little creature, with feathered antennæ, and is of a dark-brown hue.

The larvæ of some insects belonging to the genus *Incurvaria* have the habit of constructing flat cases for themselves. *Incurvaria acerifoliella* (Haworth) is one of the insects that, of late years, have worked their way northward from the United States. It did not come under my observation until the year 1881. In that year and in the following it was exceedingly abundant. In the county of Missisquoi the leaves throughout extensive maple woods were so skeletonized by it, that they presented a scorched appearance that was very remarkable. Looking at the groves from a short distance one might have thought that a hot blast had passed over the country, or that autumn had come before its time, and had browned, instead of crimsoning, the maple leaves.

The *Acerifoliella* larva bites, from the leaves, discs, about two-eighths of an inch or three-eighths of an inch in diameter. It joins several of these together, and takes up its domicile within. When it feeds, it thrusts out its head and fore-legs, and then eats the parenchyma of the leaf away, working systematically from a centre. When full fed it finds its way to the ground, and turns to a pupa within its leafy covering. The perfect insect has glossy blue fore wings; the hind wings are brown, shot with purple; the head is decorated with a tuft of yellow hairs. In the years mentioned, clouds of these beautiful little moths would rise from the foliage shaken by the passers-by.

We cannot but admire the instinct, which, in every case, impels the larva to form a covering so well adapted to secure the possessor's comfort through the vicissitudes of the seasons, and, at the same time, so likely, by its resemblance to surrounding objects, to prevent attacks from insectivorous creatures.

## REMEDIES FOR NOXIOUS INSECTS.

BY THE REV. C. J. S. BETHUNE, M.A., D.C.L., PORT HOPE.

For the convenience of farmers and fruit-growers, I propose in this paper to set forth, in alphabetical order, under the popular names of the insects, the remedies that have been found by practical experience the most useful in counteracting their ravages. As far as possible, I shall also give a wood cut of the insect, so that all may know what particular enemy is referred to. In many instances the remedies are familiar and in general use, but I think it desirable to insert them in order to make the list as nearly complete as possible. Free use is, of course, made of the writings of our leading economic entomologists, such as Professor Riley, Chief of the United States Entomological Commission at Washington; Dr. Lintner, State Entomologist of New York; and Professor Saunders, of London, whose name is familiar to all our readers, and whose work on *Insects Injurious to Fruits* should be in the hands of every intelligent farmer and fruit-grower in Canada.