

worst, I have not seen a score of them all through the summer. I noticed one or two on my own trees showing the crescent cut, but no more. It was almost as safe to eat the fruit unexamined, as it is in England.

By the way, I never hear any apprehension expressed concerning the migration of *Conotrachelus nenuphar* across the Atlantic. Though fruit is less abundant there than here, yet the introduction of this pest would be a very serious drawback to the enjoyment of plums, peaches and cherries, not to mention the loss caused by its attacks on the apple.

On the other hand, if these insects are less injurious in Pennsylvania than in Ohio, the imported currant worm is more so, and the growth of currants is greatly limited by its ravages. Very few persons seem to know what can be done by the use of poison to rescue the bushes and the currants. Great, but totally unfounded prejudice also exists against the use of poison, even on potatoes; many people seeming to fear lest the potato should absorb sufficient arsenic to render its use as a table vegetable dangerous. It is needless to say that all such ground of alarm has long been set at rest in the minds of those who have followed the progress of economic entomology. But prejudice is blind to reason and slow to die away.

In addition to this the various web-worms on the forest trees are vastly more numerous here than they were at Yellow Springs. In earliest spring and before the leaves are generally out, the American Lackey Moth (*C. Americana*) takes possession of the cherry trees and covers the young foliage with its net. Soon afterwards the Forest Lackey (*C. sylvatica*) follows on the same tree, but more frequently on the apple, and later still the walnuts are attacked by the Fall web worm (*H. texor*), whose nests remaining on the trees after the fall of the leaf, disfigure them through the winter.

This year, also, the oak caterpillar (*D. senatoria*) has wrought great ravages in the forest. I have seen hillsides that looked as if fire had passed over them in consequence of the destruction of the foliage by millions of this species. In the woods they could be found crawling over almost every square foot of ground and lying dead by dozens in every pool of water. The sound of their falling frass, too, was like a slight shower of rain. Farmers tell me they have never known them so abundant before within their recollection. Harris says this species lives on the White and Red Oaks (*Q. alba and rubra*) in Massachusetts. Here the White Oaks were untouched, and the Red Oak is not abundant. The food of the caterpillars was almost exclusively the foliage of the Black Oak (*Q. tinctoria*), the Scarlet Oak (*Q. coccinea*), and the Bear or Scrub Oak (*Q. ilicifolia*.)