

then a swift stroke of the net is required for capture. They are ever on the alert, and when alarmed take instant flight for a few yards, and come to the ground with their face to the pursuer; as he draws near they fly again, and after some distance has been covered in this way, a long flight is made back to the starting place. However, after a little practice they can be captured in fair numbers. The following are our commonest species:

*Cicindela vulgaris* (fig. 13) and *C. purpurea* (fig. 14) are widely distributed, and may be found very early in the season; the figures show their characteristic markings, the latter, as its name implies, is of a beautiful reddish purple colour above. *C. generosa* (fig. 15) is a magnificent



FIG. 13.



FIG. 14.



FIG. 15.



FIG. 16.



FIG. 17.

creature, but is not nearly so abundant as the preceding species; sometimes it is found in gardens. *C. hirticollis* (fig. 16) and *C. repanda* frequent hot sandy places, but *C. sexgutta* (fig. 17), a very beautiful metallic-green species, and *C. punctulata*, a slender and smaller blackish beetle, are found in open woods or on somewhat shady roadsides. The larvae of these beetles (fig. 18), live in holes in the sand, where they lie in wait for their prey; they have a metallic head with formidable jaws, and a curious hump on their backs, which prevents them from slipping down in their dens.



FIG. 18.

On dull cloudy days, when there are no Tiger Beetles about, and on bright days also for that matter, the collector may turn over loose stones, logs, pieces of board, or other rubbish, and he will be sure to find a variety of beetles of all sizes hurrying away to hide themselves from the sudden exposure to light. These are for the most part