

which have eaten their way out through the skin of their victim (as shown in fig 29), from which, in about a week, the little flies escape, bent on their errand of mercy to the vine-grower. Discriminate here between friends and foes, and never destroy an infested larva.



FIG. 29.

Should all things work smoothly with the caterpillar, its life-history not being interfered with by either parasites or vine-growers, then, when full-grown, it descends to the earth and constructs a slight cocoon, by drawing loosely together a few leaves or other material and binding them with silken threads, in which in three or four days the change to chrysalis (see fig. 26) takes place, and which finally gives birth to the beautiful green moth shown in fig. 27. For further details regarding this insect in all its stages, the reader is referred to "The First Annual Report on the Noxious Insects of the Province of Ontario," which appeared in the Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1870.

THE FALL WEB WORM.

A serious pest just now affects the apple tree—I refer to the "fall web worm," *Hyphantria textor*, an insect which has found its way into this Province from the Eastern States within a few years past, and is rapidly spreading. It is by no means confined to the apple, but is equally destructive to the cherry—we have also occasionally found it on the blackberry as well as on several different kinds of forest trees. At a distance, it appears as if the tree or branch infested had been suddenly blighted, the leaves have such a scorched and withered look; but on closer inspection you find the branches enclosed in a slight silken web, by means of which many of the leaves are drawn towards the stem. The upper surface and pulpy portion of the withered leaves have already been consumed by this spoiler; and here and there, where some green portions still remain, groups of ever-hungry, hairy caterpillars are busy at work. In June or July, a small, pure white moth, or miller, has laid a cluster of eggs on a leaf near the extremity of one of the branches, and from this has originated the host of mischief-makers. Before attaining full growth they give up their social characteristics, and scatter far and wide, feeding singly on almost anything they meet with. When mature, they are a little more than an inch long, of a bluish black color, with a wide band of a paler hue along each side, and a few clusters of whitish or reddish hairs arising from little knobs or tubercles, which are arranged