

The chrysalis was nearly half an inch long. Body semi-transparent ; color uniform pale yellow, excepting the eyes and enclosed mandibles, which were black ; the knee joints were faintly tipped with brown, and a faint brown line down each side of the scutellum. All the parts of the insect were plainly visible through the pupa case. The wings were very small and diverged to each side of the scutellum in a similar manner to that described on the 2nd of May.

On the 29th of May two of these which had been seen as pupae on the 24th, had become perfect beetles ; another had its wing cases green, but its abdomen was yellow and soft ; two others were still unchanged pupae. Early in June all were perfected, the beetles having escaped from their enclosures by gnawing a neat round hole through the twig, just large enough to allow of the passage of the body.

Possibly the insects I examined on the 2nd of May might have already passed through their pupa stage, and their subsequent slow developement have been due to the altered condition of the twigs containing them, owing to the dry atmosphere in which they were kept.

OBSERVATIONS ON FORMICA FLAVA, AND INFERENCES DEDUCTED THEREFROM.

BY THOMAS G. GENTRY, GERMANTOWN, PA.

During the latter part of the month of May, of the spring of 1873, while reclining upon the ground beneath the shade of a tree growing on the outskirts of a thicket, the sun at the time beaming in all its glory and splendor overhead, my attention was suddenly arrested by the activity and excitement presented by a nest of the ordinary yellow ant, *Formica flava*. Scattered promiscuously upon the earth before me were numberless larvae in various stages of developement, and not a few of immobile pupae, brought up from their subterranean domiciles by their ever active and thoughtful nurses to receive the life-sustaining benefits of the sunlight, while here and there were a dozen or more of ants that had but recently escaped from the prison-houses in which they had been confined—frail, to be sure, and with a pallid, death-like appearance, in conse-