

to the root and remained in a semi-torpid condition, sometimes coming out on warm days and eating a little. On 13th October I found that it had pupated, and I was thus in possession of the complete life-history of the species. The chrysalis which was contained in a light cocoon about an inch long, made by catching a few blades of grass together and lining them with silk, was almost erect and seemed to be kept from lying against the cocoon by a few strands of silk. Chrysalis six lines in length, head-case square in front, eye-cases large and bold, between the eyes and on each side of them are tufts of tawny hair, with which the thorax and abdomen are also invested. Wing, leg and antenna cases smooth. Abdomen at 3rd segment covered laterally by the wing-cases and slightly wider than thorax or eyes. On segments 4, 5, 6 of the abdomen, beneath, the prolegs of the caterpillar are still visible. Meso-thorax tumid and bearing upon its anterior margin, behind the eyes two elevated tuberculated prominences, in front of which in the furrow between the pro- and meso-thorax is the opening of the thoracic spiracle. Wing-cases extending to the middle of the 4th abdominal segment, from their apices the tongue-cases run free and disconnected to the posterior margin of the 7th abdominal segment. There are also two shorter and wider cases which exceed the wings and run free to the posterior margin of 5th abdominal segment. These are probably the extremities of the cases of the metathoracic pair of legs. Upon the dorsal surface of the abdomen are two series of small concave disks, a sub-dorsal anterior series and a lateral posterior series, one pair upon each abdominal segment. Cremaster consisting of a few large rounded hooks. The colour of the head, leg- and antenna-cases, black. Wing-cases at first green and afterwards greenish-black. Pro-thorax black. Meso and meta-thorax brown. Abdomen light brown.

All grasses offered were eaten readily, *Panicum Crus-Galli* and *Triticum repens* perhaps with the greatest avidity, and *Phelum pratense* with the least.

Amblyscirtes Vialis, Edw.—This pretty little butterfly was caged on 9th in a tomato can, and the same day five eggs were secured, white shaped like those of *C. Mandan*, but rather larger. All were laid upon the green leaves of a cut down tuft of *Avena striata*. The young larvæ hatched on 20th, pretty little white caterpillars with black heads. As soon as they were placed on a tuft of *Poa pratensis* they crawled up to the tip of a blade and made a tent by drawing the opposite sides half way together with one strong strand of silk. Here they remained about five days, eating a little from the edge of the leaf and then disappeared. Their tuft of grass was left uncovered, and I think they were killed by the dryness of the air. They should have been covered with a glass.

Nisoniades Icelus, Lint.—A female of this species tied upon willow (*Salix cordata*) laid one beautiful greenish winged and netted egg on 10th July. This was the same as had been found upon willow bushes in the open and supposed to belong to this species, but the origin of which was now proved. My young larva was unfortunately drowned two days after hatching. Mr. Scudder carried his to the third stage. The eggs are laid upon the upper surface of the topmost leaves of willow bushes from six to eight feet from the ground, and were only found upon the willow above mentioned, which has rather rough pubescent leaves.

THE WHEAT MIDGE (*Diplosis tritici*, Kirby).

BY JAMES FLETCHER, OTTAWA.

Year after year this troublesome insect seriously injures the wheat crop of our Province, and there is no doubt that more systematic efforts ought to be made by farmers to reduce its ravages, or it is by no means impossible that it may develop into the dreadful scourge it was some years ago. In the year 1857 it destroyed one-third of the whole wheat crop of the Province. From that year down to about 1869 the injuries were very severe; but after that they decreased in an almost miraculous manner. Now, however, the effects of the Wheat Midge upon our wheat crops are complained of by millers and farmers from all quarters of the Province, and in some parts of Canada the cultivation of wheat is