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THE COLEOPTERA OF CANADA.

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V. THE COCCINELLIDÆ OF ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

This family includes a moderate number of beetles, usually of compact, convex and often more or less hemispherical form, coloured as a rule in striking patterns of yellows or reds and black. In most cases the surface is glabrous. though in *Scymnus* and some less extensive genera it may be plainly pubescent. Technically, the family may be known by the clavate antennæ, the three-jointed tarsi with dilated second joint and the partially membranous dorsal abdominal segments ; the ventral segments are free, the first usually with coxal lines, and the claws ordinarily appendiculate or toothed. It will, however, seldom be necessary to recur to these characters in the study of a limited fauna such as is presented by East Canada, as the facies is usually such as to render the fact of an insect belonging here unmistakable. Sexual characters are feeble and seldom used in specific or generic determinations.

The larvæ are common on leaves of plants, and may often be seen in numbers on twigs infested with aphides, which constitute the chief food of the more northern species, although *Epilachna borealis* (Fig. 35), which occurs farther to the south, is known to be phytophagous in habit. Most of the known North American larvæ of this family agree in being of somewhat elongate form, often quite spiny and usually spotted or banded in reds, black and yellows. They bear a resemblance to a minute ^{Fig. 35.} alligator in shape, and are known under that name by children in some parts of the country. When full fed the larva attaches itself by the anal extremity to some convenient surface— the under side of a leaf or the bark of a tree in wild countries—and transforms to a pupa (Fig. 36—pupa of *Coccinella 9-notata*), displaying the characteristic gaudy colours before mentioned, the old larval skin adhering to the posterior extremity.

Fig. 36.

The genera are extremely difficult to tabulate in a