

so large nor so abundant. I took a number of the Como galls home with me, and in due time obtained a good supply of perfect specimens of *T. solidaginis* from them.

The species is very fully described by Loew in his "Monograph of the Diptera of North America," Part I., p. 82 (Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, April, 1862). To those who have not access to this work, the following brief description of the insect may be acceptable:—

*Size*.—Expanse of wings, eleven-twentieths of an inch. Length of body, six-twentieths. Width of thorax, two-twentieths.

*Head*.—Face, whitish. Eyes, bronze-yellow. Antennae, yellow, short. Mouth-opening wide.

*Thorax* broad and convex, set with short yellowish hairs, has dark-brown longitudinal stripes. Scutellum, convex and blunt. Wings, large, umber-brown at the base, and then having an umber-brown, zig-zag, scroll-like band; the hyaline interstices being finely reticulated, more or less, with brown. The legs are flavescent—the femora being somewhat darker.

*Abdomen* broad at the base, and then gradually tapering to the extremity—the segments being marked with short, whitish hairs. The borer of the female is very distinct. It is flat, of a reddish-brown colour, and tipped with black.

The gall produced by this insect is a pithy gall—it is filled up with the cellular tissue of the plant. Why the wounds caused by some insects should produce galls of this nature, and those caused by others should produce hollow galls, is one of the mysteries of Nature that science has not yet cleared up.

In the Trypeta gall, the short, plump, yellow larva lies snugly ensconced, closely surrounded by the vegetable tissues. It gradually tunnels a way of exit for the fly; and then, as the spring draws near, undergoes the pupal change. The pupa is about five-twentieths of an inch long, oval, ochreous, but darkening to brown at the head. This brown portion is ruptured when the fly makes its escape.

I have raised from the galls two kinds of parasites, viz:—*Eurytoma gigantea*, Walsh, and the males (called by Walsh, *Pimpla calebs*) of *Pimpla inquisitor*, Say.

*Eurytoma gigantea* is a very remarkable insect. It is described by Walsh in the 2nd Vol. of the "American Entomologist and Botanist," p. 300, from two females "captured at large."