

ON SOME INJURIOUS INSECTS.

BY W. SAUNDERS, LONDON, ONTARIO.

THE CODLING MOTH (*Carpocapsa pomonella*, LINN).
THE PEAR TREE SLUG (*Selandria cerasi*, PECK).

THE CODLING MOTH (*Carpocapsa pomonella*, LINN).

This is, indeed, one of the most troublesome insects with which we have to contend, and one of the most difficult to deal with, and, although of foreign introduction, has spread over the greater part of our country entailing a yearly loss on our apple crop which it would be difficult to over estimate. We shall briefly give the various features in its life history with a cut illustrating the insect as it appears in its various stages, and then detail such measures as have been suggested with a view to its destruction.

Fig. 35.

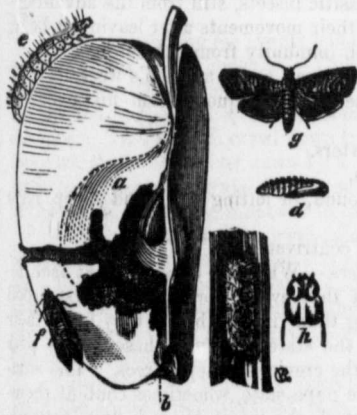


Fig. 35 represents a section of an apple which has been occupied by a codling worm—*b* shews the point of entrance of the young worm, the place of exit of the matured larva being shown at the left hand side of the figure; *e*, the full-grown worm; *h*, its head and first segment magnified; *i*, the cocoon; *d*, the pupa removed from the cocoon; *f*, the moth with wings closed; *g*, the same with wings expanded.

Soon after it leaves the fruit in the fall, the larva selects some secluded of nook or cranny, under loose bark of tree or other convenient hiding place, and there spins its tough papery-looking cocoon, and within this secure retreat it remains in the larval condition until early in spring, when, a few weeks before the final change takes place, it enters the chrysalis state. It seems strange that this tiny creature should be endowed with such a power of varying the length of its larval existence, that at this season the larva

should remain so long unchanged, while, in the case of the earlier summer brood, the change to chrysalis takes place almost immediately after the spinning of the cocoon. About the time of the opening of the apple blossoms this insect bursts its prison house and appears as a winged moth. See Fig. 35, *g*.

The moth deposits her eggs singly, and usually in the calyx or eye, just as the young apple is forming. In about a week the larva is hatched, and at once the tiny worm begins to eat its way through the apple to the core. Its castings are commonly pushed out through the hole by which it has entered, which is from time to time enlarged for the purpose; these usually adhere to the apple, so that, before the worm is full grown, infested fruit may generally be detected by the mass of reddish-brown exuviae protruding from the eye. Sometimes, as the larva approaches maturity, it eats a passage through the apple at the side, and out of this opening its castings are thrust, and here the mature worm escapes when full grown. The occupied apple generally falls prematurely to the ground, sometimes with the worm in it, but