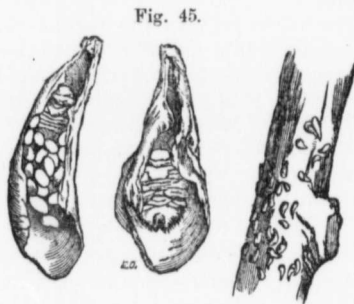


The female resembles a fat fleshy maggot, of a greenish colour, globular, somewhat flattened, and with lines across showing a division into rings, but without articulated limbs; after depositing her eggs she dies, and may be found shrivelled inside the scale."



Apple scale; with female; female and eggs, magnified.

Fig. 46.



Infested twig.

Up to 1873 the male insect had not been discovered, but in June and July of that year Mr. Riley reared a number from scales, and thus describes them: "The wings appear whitish, and under a high magnifying power are seen to be covered with infinitesimally small hooks or bristles. The general colour of the body is pale purplish-brown—not unlike the colour of the shield which protected him,—and like other gentry of his family, he has no proboscis (having lost it when shedding the larval skin), but near the place where it naturally would be are a couple of ocular tubercles, which give him the appearance of having four eyes—two above and two below. The hind wings are replaced by two fusiform balancers, which terminate in a long, delicate hook, and which hold and give strength to the front wings, which are spatulate in form and traversed with but two veins. Frail and delicate as these little beings appear, they are yet possessed of wonderful nerve-force and wing-power; for the few days of life allotted to them are days of great activity, and in the breeding-jar they keep up an almost constant wing-vibration, and are never at rest except when the temperature is unusually low."

As regards prevention and remedies for this insect, Miss Ormerod mentions, among other plans, that "Scale may be removed at any time of the year, but the best season for destroying it or applying dressings is in spring, so as to clear it away before the young insects—which creep out in May from under the old dead shells—have appeared, to begin the new attack. It may be removed by thoroughly moistening the surface of the infested bark with lathers of any kind of soap (or any dressing that may be preferred), and then scraping the surface with a blunt knife, or rubbing it with pieces of coarse canvas, or well brushing it, so as to clear off the scale without hurting the bark. Scraping with a blunt knife is a good plan, as in this way the scales, moss, and everything on the surface are mixed up in a plaster with the soapy lather and got thoroughly rid of together. If brushing is preferred, good drenchings of soap and water, or of dressings poisonous to the scale, should be given in addition to the first thorough moistening, so as to wash down or kill all that may have only been disturbed or be lodged in crevices. Soft soap or common coarse household soap are useful for this purpose."

Mr. Riley gives the following advice on the subject:—"The importance of critical examination, before planting, of all young trees and scions, or of applying some simple remedy when the young lice are hatching, cannot be too strongly urged; and, as a rule which will hold very generally true, it may be stated that the young begin to hatch just about the time the blossom falls and the fruit begins to set. Let those who prefer to work toward eradicating the pest in winter-time (as many no doubt will, on account of

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