

ENTOMOLOGY FOR BEGINNERS.

THE LEGGED MAPLE BORER—Aegeria aceris (Clemens).

BY THE EDITOR.

In 1860 Dr. Clemens described this pretty moth in the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and since then it has been written on by Mr. P. Gennadius in the *American Naturalist* for January, 1874, and in the same year by C. V. Riley, in his 6th Missouri Report. It is well figured in the accompanying cut, figure 6 (after Riley), in all its stages; *a* shows the larva, *b* the cocoons exposed by removal of the bark, *c* the moth, and *d* the chrysalis.

The moth appears late in May and during June. When the wings are expanded it measures about three-quarters of an inch across; its wings are transparent, decorated with bluish-black markings. The head and palpi are of a deep reddish-orange, antennae bluish-black, thorax ochreous-yellow, abdomen bluish-black varied with ochreous-yellow and terminated by a tuft of brilliant reddish-orange hairs.

The under side of the body is ochreous-yellow with bluish-black markings.

The female deposits her eggs on the bark of the soft and sugar maple trees, chiefly on the former, and when hatched the young larvae burrow through the bark and feed upon the inner portion and sap wood, never penetrating into the solid heart wood. The excavations made by the larva are filled with its brown castings. When full grown it is more than half an inch long, cylindrical to the eleventh segment, then tapering to the end, with the skin wrinkled and folded. The head is small, of a yellow color, cervical shield paler; stigmata brown; legs and tips of prolegs reddish. When the larva is full grown it eats its way nearly through the

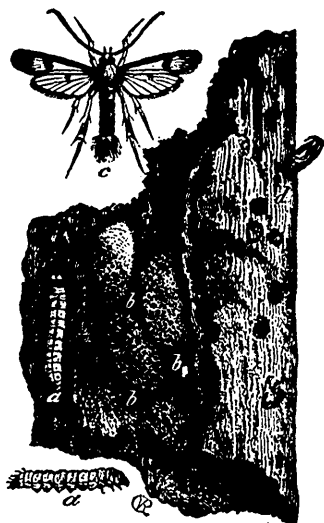


Fig. 6.