

that all may be able to recognize it. Should it at any time prove troublesome, its large size makes it so conspicuous, that it might be easily controlled by hand picking.

No. 19. THE ABBOT SPHINX. (*Thyroux Abbotti*, Swainson.)

We have never yet met with the larva of this insect, but have seen specimens of the moth, which were captured in the neighbourhood of Hamilton, Ont. Doubtless, some of our readers will have met with it. Figure 5 shews both larva and moth. The following

FIG. 5.



description of this species occurs in Mr. Riley's second report, already alluded to, which we shall take the liberty of copying:—

"This is another of the large grape feeding insects occurring on the cultivated and indigenous vines, and on the Virginia Creeper, and having, in a full grown larva state, a polished tubercle, instead of a horn at the tail. Its habitat is given by Dr. Clemens as New York, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Massachusetts, and Ohio; but, though not so common as the Sphinx moths previously described, yet it is often met with both in Illinois and Missouri. The larva, which is represented in the upper part of figure 5,

varies considerably in appearance. Indeed, the ground colour seems to depend in a measure on the sex, for Dr. Morris describes this larva as reddish brown, with numerous patches of light green, and expressly states that the female is of a uniform reddish-brown, with an interrupted dark brown dorsal line, and transverse striae. I have reared two individuals, which came to their growth about the last of July, at which time they were both without a vestige of green. The ground colour was dirty yellowish, especially at the sides. Each segment was marked transversely with six or seven slightly impressed fine black lines, and longitudinally with wider non-impressed dark brown patches, alternating with each other, and giving the worm a checkered appearance. These patches become more dense along the subdorsal region, where they form two irregular dark lines, which, on the thoracic segments, become single, with a similar line between them. There was also a dark stigmatal line, with a lighter shade above it, and a dark stripe running obliquely downwards from the posterior to the anterior portion of each segment. The belly was yellow, with a tinge of pink between the prolegs, and the shiny tubercle at the tail was black, with a yellowish ring around the base. The head, which is characteristically marked, and by which this worm can always be distinguished from its allies—no matter what the ground colour of the body may be—is slightly roughened and dark, with a lighter broad band on each side, and a central mark down the middle, which often takes the form of an x. This worm does not assume the common sphinx attitude of holding up the head, but rests stretched at full length; though, if disturbed, it will throw its head from side to side, thereby producing a crepitating noise."

"The chrysalis is formed in a superficial cell on the ground; its surface is black and roughened by confluent punctures, but, between the joints, it is smooth, and inclines to brown; the head case is broad and rounded, and the tongue case is level with the breast; the tail terminates in a rough flattened wedge-shaped point, which gives out two extremely small thorns from the end."

"The moth appears in the following March or April, there being but one brood each year. It is of a dull chocolate or greyish brown colour, the front wings becoming lighter beyond the middle, and being variegated with dark brown, as in the figure. The hind wings are sulphur-yellow, with a broad dark brown border, breaking into a series of short lines, on a flesh-coloured ground, near the body. The wings are deeply scalloped, especially the front ones, and the body is furnished with lateral tufts. When at rest, the abdomen is curiously curved up in the air."

Should this worm at any time become sufficiently numerous to prove destructive—