

four abdominal segments, which are dark, somewhat purplish in hue. Lines on the thoracic joints may be faintly made out, whitish; their continuations on the last abdominal one are less so. An important individual point is that no lines, not even a faint continuation of the dorsal, cross the dark contrasting area shown on the first four abdominal segments. The head and plates are semi-transparent; but little can be made out of the tubercles, though there seems a fair complement of setæ; length .65 inch.

Next stage: The salient characteristics with *Hydracia* larvæ belonging to this section of the genus are now well exemplified. The abrupt termination of the usual dorsal and subdorsal lines on four of the middle segments leaves this space presenting the contrasting effect of a dark band or girdle, thus making it always easy to distinguish the young larvæ of this group.

Head now measures .06 inch across, a shining honey-yellow colour. Its development is normal, a few minute setæ arise on the front; a black, oblique line at the side, which takes in the ocelli, is the only marking. The thoracic shield is a shining plate as wide as the head and very nearly covers the first segment above the line of the spiracles. It is prominently edged at the lateral borders with black, which finds a continuation on the head in the line above mentioned. The tubercles are hardly definable, though their position is usually indicated by minute setæ. The anal plate is similar to the thoracic in texture, projects outwardly over the last pair of pro-legs and offers a protective shield at this extremity. The usual preceding plates on the last segment are well developed for this early stage. On the segments where they occur the ordinary lines are whitish and so wide as to overbalance the dark body colour. The spiracles are black. Larva now measures .95 inch in length.

Following stage: A marked gain in bulk is noticed, otherwise appearance remains similar. The black side line disappears from the head; the lateral tubercles come into prominence, iv is most noticeable behind the spiracles except on joint ten where it is low down. On the next to last segment i and ii have become much enlarged.

Length 1.10 inches.

Penultimate stage: Head and shields retain their respective proportions, tubercles improminent, i and ii, on all joints but the last, are the merest dots, requiring close scrutiny to observe when unaided by a lens.