

the August brood only about a fortnight. What becomes of butterflies at night? I had often asked. One evening after dark, I saw a *P. Oleracea* resting with closed wings on a stalk of grass. I threw it into the air repeatedly, but it would not fly; it merely fluttered to the ground, and made no resistance to my taking it up again.

Vanessa Milberti, Godart. The first butterfly that gladdens our eyes in spring, appearing on sunny days in the middle of April, but in no considerable number in May. Then it becomes by far the most abundant of all our butterflies, more common than even the Garden White, and that in every season. It seems to survive the long and severe winter. I once found one, half-torpid, on the 15th October, resting, with closed wings, on a stone *in the midst* of a loose heap; and a gentleman presented me with another, living, but torpid, which had fallen from a loft on the 5th of April. This last was certainly a survivor of the winter.

About the middle of June we see the tops of the growing nettles covered with unsightly webs, which are inhabited by families of the little black caterpillars of *Milberti*. They live in society some time after they are hatched; but as they grow up they separate into groups of four or five on each plant. As they are not long eating the choice leaves of one nettle, they colonize to others, leaving their deserted habitations mere leafless stalks, covered with the dense and cloth-like web, and with the excrement and sloughed skins of the caterpillars.

When full grown they have a rather repulsive appearance, being black above, dingy green below, with toothed spines. But the beauty of the chrysalis atones for the ugliness of the caterpillar; for the numerous sharp points on the brown segments are of a most brilliant gold, like polished metal. Occasionally we see examples of more than usual splendour; the abdominal rings of a dull red, and the whole fore parts of polished gold, tinged with green. Alas! it is a fatal beauty! for all such specimens are punctured by parasitic flies, the terrible "Long Stings;" and from every one there are sure to emerge one or more of these rascally ichneumons.

V. Antiopa, Linn. Rather rare, flying round the tops of willows. Fine specimens measure $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in expanse; the border of the wings, which in European examples is buff, is in Newfoundland examples pure white, speckled with blackish: at least in the female.

Pyrameis Atalanta, Linn. The Red Admiral is sufficiently abundant with us. As soon as summer is fully set in our gardens are gay with this