

small drab cocoons in a cluster at the bottom of the gall, and await their metamorphoses.

The other foe of the Gelechian belongs to the genus *Cryptus* in the same family. It has not yet been described; but I have raised it for three or four years in succession, and I propose to call it *Cryptus bicolor*. It is black, but the 2nd and 3rd segments of the abdomen are deep red. It is a larger insect than *B. furtivus*; and it deposits but one egg in a gall. The larva is white, waxen with a tinge of pink. It also, having devoured its victim, spins a cocoon within the gall.

The life of *Gelechia galladiploppapi* in its early stages is an interesting and suggestive one. The creature lives and toils in the narrow area of its prison-house, knowing nothing of the higher life and the glorious field for which it is destined, yet impelled by its instincts to make preparations for the change. Dire foes it has; and can it be that some violation of instinct, some erratic course on the part of the larva, brings the attacks of these upon it? We know not, but, coming under the power of its foes, it fails to attain to that nobler state of existence—which things are an allegory, suggestive to us of joys for which we yearn, and evils which we fear.

One of the most striking objects to be found in our peat-bogs is the Pitcher-plant, *Sarracenia purpurea* (Linneus). It has a bunch of strangely formed leaves, all springing from the root. Each leaf in shape is like a trumpet or pitcher, with an arched lip or hood at the apex, and a wing on one side. Their color is a delicate green relieved with purple tracery. From the centre of the bunch arises the stalk, a foot or more in length, supporting the magnificent blossom, which is as large as the palm of one's hand, and is of that gorgeous Tyrian hue that was so valued by the emperors of old.

On examination we find that the roots of this strange plant do not penetrate to the soil, but are spread and entangled in the living sphagnum of the bog. From whence then does it derive the nutriment that is necessary for so marked a development? A closer investigation reveals the secret. The pitchers are found to contain a fluid which is attractive to insects. Bugs, flies, small moths, etc., enter the pitchers to gratify their appetites. They sip and become intoxicated. Turning to ascend the concavity of the pitcher, they are confronted by the retrorse bristles with which it is armed. They soon lose their footing, and fall into the liquid beneath.

———"Facilis descensus Avernì :

Sed revocare gradum superasque evadere ad auras

Hoc opus, hic labor est."