

from the first appearance of the head, varied from six to ten minutes, for I watched several of them through the process. The egg was so thin and elastic that it yielded readily to the motions of the body, and adhered very closely to it, contracting and shrivelling up as the body was withdrawn.

After the larva comes out it does not consume the egg or any portion of it, as is the case with most lepidoptera, but sets to work at once eating the leaf on which its considerate mother placed it. When just hatched the worms are about one-twelfth of an inch long; head large, dull whitish with a round dark spot on each side, and a few minute short hairs; mandibles pale brown. Body above and below, whitish, semi-transparent, sometimes with a slight greenish tinge. From this time it rapidly increases in size, becoming green, then changing to green with many black dots, and finally reverting to plain green again, tinged with yellow at the extremities, just before it becomes a chrysalis.

I have a fact to communicate regarding the winter history of this insect. It has been universally held that the larvæ, when they leave the bushes in the fall, at once construct their cocoons, either at the surface of the ground or just below the surface, and change to a chrysalis either then or sometime before early spring. Possibly as a rule this may be the case, if so I have an interesting exception to record. On the 22nd of May I was trying some experiments in crossing gooseberries, fertilizing the flowers of the Houghton's Seedling with some of the large English varieties, and having operated on several branches, tied them up in new paper bags to prevent interference with the work, either from insects or otherwise. The particular bag I am about to refer to, was attached so an upright branch on the summit of the bush, about 18 inches from the ground. While examining it on May 31st, nine days afterwards, to ascertain the result of my work, I found in one of the folds of the bag a cocoon of *Nematus ventricosus* firmly attached to the surface of the paper. In this instance the larva must have remained unchanged during the winter, then crawled from the ground, attaching itself as related, and constructing its cocoon after the 22nd of May. A few days later, I found a similar cocoon attached to the bush, which from its fresh appearance I inferred had been constructed about the same time, although I am unable to advance any positive statement regarding it. During the summer I have found a considerable number of such cocoons fastened to the underside of the leaves of the bushes on which the larvæ have been, and these have been observed in all positions from near the base to the summit of the bushes, showing that it is not the invariable practice of the larva to undergo its change to chrysalis, either at the surface or under the surface of the ground.