

On 26th: "I went to-day to another swamp where I found quite a number of aphides, all on the stems of alder, some so low down as to be under the grass. There was also, one butterfly flying, but I could not catch it. I got, however, one egg, which I mail to Mrs. Peart. There is a small *Syrphus* fly grub which devours the aphides far faster than does *Tarquinius*. I took 6 from the twigs of aphides which I send you to-day. These grubs stick the wool from the aphides upon their own backs, and are often difficult to detect.*

"After second moult, I find the larvae crawling naked on the limb seeking for fresh supplies of food; then they again spin a web, which they leave after the aphides are consumed. I do not think they spin after third (the last) moult. They then go about very quickly. There are four species of ants guarding the aphides on the alder, and I find fewest *Tarquinius* larvae among those guarded by the black and red ones I before told you of, though the butterflies do not seem to fear them in the least. The female lays her eggs generally close to or among a bunch of aphides, but occasionally on the leaf, if it rests on the aphides. The latter do not feed upon leaves unless just at the junction of them. On putting in a fresh supply for the larvae they at once burrow under and devour the aphides from the under side, unless after third moult, when the larvae eat roads through, but still from the under side, their backs covered with wool from the unlucky aphides. I think the wool prevents eating from above, for I noticed the larvae eat the red aphides from cherry from the back, or wherever they seized them."

Aug. 30th: "Each stem has to be cleared of ants, some species of which not only bite sharply enough to draw blood, but also sting, and cut off with a knife, the slightest jar often knocking off the aphides and such larvae as are not in webs. Then there is what I take to be a *Syrphus* larva which has to be removed, as it devours twice as many aphides as do the *Tarquins*. These lie under the aphides, often in a web of the *Tarquins*, and are very difficult to find."

Sept. 3rd: "Last night I saw a *Tarquin* just out of egg and watched it for over an hour spinning a web close to and almost under a large *Syrphus* grub. So I do not suppose these grubs injure the *Tarquins*. It crawled under the mouth of the grub and over its back, without the least

* *Syrphus*-fly grubs. See Harris, p. 248.