

in the garden or yard during the summer, it will in a few weeks be entirely populated with the larvæ of mosquitoes; for each female deposits about three hundred eggs, which, in three or four weeks after, are metamorphosed into perfect flies, which again deposit new eggs, and so on until six or seven generations take place in one season. Their immense number would give us much trouble in every section of the country were they not the favorite food of many birds, particularly of the swallows, as well as of dragonflies and other insects, who diminish their number and help to rid us of their troublesome company.

Their eggs are of an oval form, and, perpendicularly glued together in masses, swim upon the water like rafts, about three lines long. They are at first white, but become green after a few hours, and afterward gray. After two days the larvæ come out, and swim around with the greatest rapidity, very often coming to the surface of the water to breathe, their respiratory organ being situated at the extremity of the hind body. In two weeks they change into a pupa, which still remains upon the surface of the water, and after a week bursts open, and the perfect mosquito flies out as if shot from underneath the water.

THE END.