

a little the male would immediately back up until the position described was regained, acting as though any other position was painful, or at least uncomfortable.

I began cautiously to cut away the branches which would prevent my net rim from reaching the ground, intending to lower the bag over the pair so carefully that they would not take alarm and separate, and then to sit quietly by until copulation was finished, or, if necessary, to leave them undisturbed overnight. I had succeeded in clearing away the inconvenient branches without frightening the butterflies, and had just laid hold of the net when my plans were suddenly upset by the male, who released the body of the female and flew to a dead twig a few yards away. This happened at 10.40 a.m., exactly ten minutes after I first sighted the pair. It was then an easy matter to capture the insects. Not being confident of the sex of either, I brought both to the laboratory alive, and after noting such differences as appeared on the visible wing surfaces, I put them together in a cage over a growing plant of *vacillans*.* On the 13th one of the butterflies died; it proved to be the male. About noon on the 15th I examined the plant with a lens without finding any eggs. Shortly before two o'clock I transferred the female to a cage containing twigs of plum (cultivated), *V. corymbosum*, *V. vacillans* and *V. pennsylvanicum*, and on looking over the plant from which she had been removed, I discovered an egg on the outside of one of the opening leaf-buds. I straightway turned my attention to the imprisoned butterfly.

Oviposition.—Observation began at 1.57 p.m., at which time she was resting quietly on the gauze. Four minutes later she began to walk about nervously, and at 2.05 dropped to a spray of *vacillans*, and almost immediately oviposited on the outer scale of an unopened bud. A few seconds afterward she returned to the gauze, but continued to move about actively as though seeking a way of escape. At 2.07 she again dropped to the plants, this time alighting on a plum leaf, from which she walked up the stem and over the flowers, jumped to an open flower of *vacillans*, and, with more deliberation than before, oviposited on the calyx (2.08), returning shortly to the gauze. Wishing to determine the minimum interval between the laying of two eggs, I removed two of the four uprights which held the netting in position, and by bringing the butterfly close to the plants I was

*The weather for the next few days may be of interest, as it possibly influences to some extent the length of time elapsing between *coitus* and ovipositing. May 8th, 9th and 10th cold, cloudy, with rain at intervals; 11th fair but cold; 12th hazy, with keen wind, rain in afternoon; 13th cold, rain; 14th fair and warm; 15th fair and warm.