

It is owing to the imperfection of their protection that insects are, as a whole, kept under and an undue multiplication prevented. But there is, probably, an effort in these directions to be noted and brought out in the life history of all insects. Darwin's law of Natural Selection tends to bring out these characters more strongly by its effect of preserving the best protected kinds. I have noted how the species of *Catocala*, so numerous with us, are preserved; the larvæ, by their resemblance to twigs, the moths, from their upper wings, during the day and in repose, corresponding in appearance with the trunk and bark of the trees against which they rest. The larvæ of burrowing Lepidoptera resemble in their pale and livid colors those of the Coleoptera or burrowing larvæ of other Orders of Insects. The larvæ of Hymenoptera, which are external feeders, resemble the external feeding Lepidoptera in their greenish tints. There is then a correlation between habit and color. The larvæ of cut-worms (*Agrotis*) resemble the soil in color, where they burrow at the roots of plants.

In South Carolina I collected a number of specimens of an Orthopterous insect, which strikingly resembled the predaceous Cicindelidæ. They were active on the leaves of Okra. I regret that the specimens were lost, and I could not determine the species. I have observed that certain smooth Chrysomelidæ, living on a species of lily, on the approach of danger folded in the feet and allowed themselves to slide off the leaves, dropping in the herbage beneath where they speedily recovered the use of their legs. The snapping beetles, *Elateridæ*, assume a rigid attitude, the short feet tucked in against the under part of the hard body, and look like bits of dead wood or twigs. By their quiet and protective color they seem to expect that they will escape notice. This and similar actions in other kinds of beetles and insects is called "feigning death" by some writers. In order to "feign death," as the words intend, some knowledge of death as such and its advantages must be supposed. But I cannot think that insects have arrived at any such generalization of ideas. Their actions often incompletely answer to their apparent ends. It is probable to me that their attitudes of repose are assumed from the experience which they have gradually acquired that in a state of quiet they will best avoid the immediate dangers which beset them and which they cannot escape by flight. A *Catocala* will rest in quiet for hours, but on the near approach of a disturber will take to very quick and instant flight. Trying to capture a specimen once it thus escaped me, but in its endeavor to avoid Charybdis it fell into Scylla, for a passing swallow devoured it in the air.