

shaking of the leaf, all the heads wagged together. This would be a natural protection against ichneumon flies, etc. I have observed the same simultaneous wagging in young larvæ of *M. Phaeton*, as an ichneumon fly was hovering over them. This habit my larvæ kept up through the second stage. The first moult was passed while they were all piled together. The habit in feeding during the second and third stages was as in the first, no web, no shelter, all in bunches. But after third moult part of the larvæ protected themselves in the manner of *Grapta Comma*, eating off the main ribs at the base of a leaf on under side, whereby the leaf drooped. The edges were drawn together pretty closely and nearly to tip, and several larvæ might be found therein. One small lot of larvæ were on upper side of a leaf at the base, and had drawn the edges together for a half inch from base, making an imperfect shelter, but the ribs were not cut and the leaf stood in natural position.

At fourth moult I had a fresh plant ready and the larvæ were transferred. They scattered about, bent and closed leaves as in previous stage, and in some of these were three and four individuals, in others but one. But sometimes the leaf was not bent, and was closed from end to end nearly, a single larva lying therein.

The weather was clear while I was feeding this brood, and at no time was there any spinning of a web, or spinning at all beyond what was necessary to close the leaves. From what I saw, I should say that the larvæ in the early stages were highly gregarious, that after third moult they were much less so, and after fourth (and last) had lost most of that habit. But had the weather been cloudy, or stormy, they might have acted differently, and protected themselves more or less by a web.

I asked Mr. Gilbert to observe what he could of *Milberti* in natural state. He wrote 15th July: "The eggs, so far as I have observed, are always eight or ten inches below the top of the nettle, and usually in cluster on under side; *but on one occasion I found them loosely scattered over the upper side*, covering nearly half the leaf. In rough, windy or showery weather, the young larvæ may spin a web on under side of the natal leaf. I have seen this twice, and it seemed to me only a temporary expedient to avoid the rain and to secure a safe foothold. But they generally go to the top of the plant and spin a web which covers the terminal leaves, and by additions come to extend for three to five inches down. My opinion is that if the weather be rough when the larvæ are hatched, they rest on the natal leaf; if fair, ascend. When very young there are