

forth over the cluster of cocoons, the males evidently waiting for the females and the females waiting to be fertilized. Mating takes place a short time after emergence, within 12-24 hours.

Immediately after fertilization the females go in search of their host larvæ. Any cabbage leaves placed in the breeding cages soon attracted their attention, and, if any unfortunate larvæ were present, they soon fell victims to these parasites. Walking back and forth over the cabbage leaves, the females kept their antennæ in constant motion. As soon as one found a larva, not too large, preferably in the first, second or third stages, she prepared to oviposit. Bending her abdomen almost at right angles to her body, the parasite rushed upon the *Pieris* larva and drove her ovipositor through the skin, while her wings, in nearly all cases, were extended dorsally, closed above the thorax. I never observed them oviposit on the dorsum, always on the latero-ventral region, and it was not infrequent to observe two or three ovipositing in a single larva at the same time. The host usually objected most vigorously to such treatment, but the parasites remained unmoved, stroking the larva with their antennæ or remaining motionless. Sometimes they endeavoured to oviposit in an older larva, but it succeeded in knocking them off, though undoubtedly some eggs were deposited. The time of oviposition varied from fifteen to twenty seconds. At each act of oviposition from fifteen to thirty-five eggs are deposited just beneath the epidermis, so that with the moulting of the host the eggs are not shed also. In one larva oviposited in three times I counted, when dissected, sixty-five eggs, and undoubtedly there were a few more which I did not succeed in finding. These eggs were found floating freely in the body cavity, and were not inclosed in packets. These facts stand in striking contrast with Reaumur's and Bree's observations.

These eggs hatch in from three to four days. The larvæ feed upon the lymph and fatty tissue of their host, carefully avoiding the vital parts. They become mature during the latter part of the larval life of their host—that is, in about eight to twelve days—and emerge by cutting their way through the skin. The spinning of their cocoons occupies scarcely over three-quarters of an hour, often less. Reaumur, Vol. 2, p. 422, gives an excellent description of the manner of spinning the cocoons.

The number of parasites reared from a single caterpillar varies greatly. The smallest number that I have reared was sixteen, and the largest was fifty-two. Bignell reports having reared one hundred and forty-two from