

THE LUNA MOTH (*Actias luna*).

BY R. V. ROGERS, KINGSTON, ONT.

As supplementary to my remarks on this pretty creature in the August number of the CAN. ENT., I would say that on June 6th a friend gave me a captured female Luna. For two or three nights I used her as a trap to entangle unwary males, but in vain as far as my cabinet was concerned; the weather was cold. On the 7th, 8th and 9th, during the silent watches of the night, she deposited in her place of confinement, in all, about 100 eggs of a dark brown or chocolate color, flattened at the sides, smooth and about .005 of an inch in length; the sides were of a lighter shade. On the 13th the moth died, having accomplished the end of her existence. On the 20th the first little larvæ appeared, having made their escape by eating an oval opening in the end of the shell; the inner surface of the egg now appeared perfectly white. The caterpillars were about .02 of an inch in length; head black, greenish on top and yellowish in front; the body black, with two yellow spots on each segment, and having numerous yellow hairs; the under part of the body and feet and legs were of a light yellow. Some crawled about with the empty shell on their tails, others carried it as an umbrella over their heads, but the majority seemed to discard it at once. The first day they were in a dark box, and they seemed very restless and would eat nothing; the next day I put them in a box with a glass cover, and they at once settled down contentedly to their life-long work of eating their daily bread. Others were born on the 20th and 21st. I fed them on elm leaves. On the 27th they had grown to over a third of an inch in length, and now the warts upon each segment were apparent, and the little hairs upon them were also visible.

On the 30th they began to change their skins; the head and body were now of a light green, with yellow warts on each segment; the hairs were neither as numerous or as distinct as before; there were a few dark ones on the front segments.

On the 4th of July the length of the largest was .45 in.; on the 11th, .6 in.; on the 13th they moulted a second time, and on the 18th they had attained the length of almost an inch.