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NOTES UPON SOME BUTTERFLY EGGS AND LARVÆ.

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During the past month (July) I have endeavored to obtain the eggs and larvæ of some of the butterflies common near this place (Hunter), in the Catskill Mountains, and have met with considerable success.

The most interesting discovery was that of the food plant of *Phyciodes tharos*, which had baffled all my endeavors for the past four or five years, during which time Mr. Edwards and myself have tried a great number of plants without avail.

Once, indeed, as has been recorded in a previous volume, we obtained a number of eggs from females enclosed in a glass jar with grass, but the larvæ refused to feed and died.

This summer, remembering that the congeneric *nycteis* and *Harrisii* feed on Composite, I prepared a large box by partly filling it with earth and transplanting into this small specimens of all the common Composite I could lay my hands upon. The box was covered with gauze and about a dozen ♀ *Phyciodes marcia* and *tharos* introduced. In a few days I examined the leaves and found six patches of eggs upon one of the plants, the number of eggs in a patch varying from twenty to about one hundred and fifty. The plant proved to be a species of Aster, very common here in wet places and by the roadside; no specimens are in bloom as yet (Aug. 2nd), but from the leaves I think it will prove to be *Aster Novæ-Angliæ*. No eggs were found on any of the other plants. After finding these, I transferred the females of *marcia* which still remained alive to a smaller box with living food-plants; these have now laid several more large patches of eggs.

On the 31st of July I succeeded in finding a brood of young caterpillars upon a plant of this Aster growing in a damp meadow. The larvæ feed upon the under side of the leaf in the same way as those of *nycteis*, leaving the upper surface untouched. Those of the first moult