

spun, the larva was in a constant state of anxiety about its work, as if it foresaw the storms of rain and wind it must be subjected to for many long months, shut in this slender house. In closing, it lies along the midrib inside, its anterior segments extending over the top, and it moves its head from side to side weaving a concave edge. But it often reached far over and added a thread here and there where the work seemed to be finished, and it would frequently leave the case to inspect the fastenings about the branch, and to weave additional threads there as needed. The silk is passed entirely around the branch, and binds both sides of the leaf-stem. In weaving at the case the larva would soon become exhausted. I timed one actively at work for ten minutes, and there succeeded an interval about as long of rest, the larva lying motionless along the midrib. When at last the case is finished, the larva enters and rests awhile, but presently comes out, runs about examining the stem and the fastenings, then returns—and this scrutiny will be repeated perhaps three or four times. Two larvæ were kept in the same glass, each of which had commenced a case and partly inclosed it, when I removed one. The other soon began to amuse itself by shifting about, trying each case and working at it, and finally completed and occupied that which it had not begun. Some days after all had apparently retired for the season, one came out and wandered uneasily about, but a few hours later was found to have returned to its case and was seen no more.

There was some variation in the mode of cutting the pattern, as sometimes work was begun on the side of the leaf instead of at the base. But it always resulted in the same fiddle-shaped piece. The cutting was evidently fatiguing, from the inconvenient position of body required, the head and anterior segments having to be bent sideways, even to a right angle much of the time, and the larva frequently rested and shifted its place. It was never found on the wrong side of the cut, however, or in danger of falling with the rejected portion of the leaf. Occasionally after having begun a case the larva would desert it and construct another. The larvæ finally entered the cases head first, their bodies contracting in length and proportionately thickening so as to completely fill the upper end of the tube, and allow nothing to be visible from the aperture, while over this last the long flap of the leaf soon curved sufficiently to keep out water.

Probably in the natural state the case of *Arthemis* is constructed from the leaf on which the caterpillar began its existence, whether willow or aspen.