

ease with which they can be seen from the greatest distance. There are about twenty-five times more species of British moths than butterflies, and they are of all sizes, so that in this respect they suit all magnitudes of white flowers." Koehler and Schubler long ago made the same observation regarding colour and odour of flowers.

I think that in the case of the *Asclepiadaceæ* this holds good, because those preponderating in whitish or yellow flowers are less visited by diurnals than the red and purple-coloured species. I must mention here another curious circumstance relating to the aversion that Argynnis and diurnals exhibit toward *white* Zinnias, and Verbenas of the same colour.

In August or September of each year I look for Argynnis on these plants, when Milk-weeds are past bloom. In the season of 1890 I made numerous trips to a horticultural garden, where Zinnias, Verbenas and other plants were cultivated by the acre. There were beds of Zinnias, seventy-five feet long by twenty in width, of separate and mixed colours; five large beds, three of separate and two of mixed colours, all starting from a summer-house to the points of the asterisk, on a lawn 4-5 acres in extent, could be readily observed from the centre of this floral star. One bed contained fulvous-tinted Zinnias, another white, the next crimson. and two beds were planted with Zinnias of mixed colours, all but white. I have repeatedly watched these gorgeous flower-beds from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., in warm, calm and clear weather, with the following result:

To the bed of *white* Zinnias only *Pieris* and a few *Colias* made their visitation, and but on a single occasion have I observed any other diurnal on these white flowers, and it was a single specimen of *Papilio turnus*. The two beds of fulvous and crimson Zinnias attracted many of the Argynnis, three of the large species, different *Pyrameis*, many *Papilios*, *L. disippus*, some *Hesperidæ* and day-flying moths. The other two beds of Zinnias, made up of mixed colours, in addition to lepidoptera mentioned, also attracted *Colias* and *Pieris* (a few) to their sulphur-coloured flowers, four species of *Papilios* and a few *Euptoieta Claudia*.

Zinnias are inodorous to our sense of smell, but the honey they contain and the fiery colours of their flowers are very attractive to lepidopterous insects. In the case of Zinnias and Verbenas, another brilliantly flowering and nidorous plant, it would seem that the gorgeousness of blossom serves the purpose of attracting diurnals for purposes of cross-fertilization. Plots of Verbenas, an acre and more in extent, I have watched with similar result. One man had more than two acres planted with only *white* Verbenas, and it was in possession of *Pieris rapæ* principally. The other contained all known colours, including a few white, and the plants were freely visited by Argynnis, *Papilios* and a number of other diurnals, as well as by *Hemaris thysbe*. The last mentioned appeared a little before twilight, about seven o'clock.