

here, having found some nice looking birch stumps with frass showing, we set to work with a saw to saw off the sides, and so find we have secured one or two larvæ or pupæ, and in a good afternoon's work may perhaps obtain twenty. These we take home and put on wet moss to prevent drying up, and with care may in about six weeks breed a good many. I have found putting them under a bell glass a good way. I have never taken this insect on the wing.

The next, *S. formicaeformis*, with its pretty claret-coloured wings, we find flying in the sun along the sides of the roads which intersect our osier beds in the Mitcham district (about eight miles out). This species seems on the wing all the day, and fifteen or twenty is a fair catch. The larvæ can be cut out of the osiers about April, but it is very risky, as the basket makers have a decided objection to their osiers being cut.

*S. chrysidiformis*, the handsomest of all our smaller Sesiadæ, with its bright scarlet wings, was, until some twelve years ago, most rare, fetching as much as two and three pounds per pair, but about that time they found out how to take the larvæ. Starting from the London Bridge station, on the S. E. R., we take tickets for Folkestone (town station). Arriving there after about two and a-half hours' run, we turn towards the Warren (a sort of undercliff running along the shore for about three miles), and after a mile's walk we get on to the slopes closest to the sea. Having brought a good, sharp, two-inch chisel with us, we look round for roots of dock and sorrel; the former we find are very scarce, having been cleared off by collectors; the latter, however, are still common, and having selected a good strong one dig it up, and scraping part of the root away see signs of workings. We put the root into a small sack we have provided and then search for more. In the course of a day we get a nice lot together, and upon our arrival home plant them into boxes. As it is only April, and the imago will not be out till June, there is now nothing else to do but to keep them watered and cover over with muslin till about the end of May. One year, from three days' work in Folkestone Warren, I bred about 150 fine imagos.

*S. cynipiformis*, feeding in oak, is said to occur in Hyde Park, but I have never been able to find it there. However, I have obtained the larvæ commonly at Tilgate in early May by finding the trunks of large oaks which have been cut down two winters previous, then ripping off the bark the larvæ are found feeding in it. In England the trees are cut off only four or five inches from the ground, and the moths seem to prefer