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intervals of relaxation and freedom from duty, to give it prolonged and careful attention for many consecutive days. In not a single instance did it assume the attitude so eminently characteristic of the Sphinx family.

One other peculiar trait of its nature it was my happy fortune to observe. Caterpillars, as is well known, have a variety of ways for defending themselves against the annoyances and assaults of their enemies. While some are provided with hairs which act as irritating causes when brought into contact with highly sensitive surfaces, others are furnished with fearful looking spines which infuse a feeling of horror into their enemies, even when they have not the power to act as irritants. This species, presenting an almost perfectly smooth bodily surface, assuredly makes up from its lack of integumentary appendages, in being armed with a pair of powerful tridentate mandibles, which it uses freely and indiscriminately.

Hundreds of Lepidopterous larvæ have been handled with impunity by the writer, and this new method of self-defence, even where manifested, has been so slight as not to attract much attention. In this case the insect seemed unwilling to permit any familiarities. The softest touch of the finger was sharply resented. On one occasion the writer's finger was seized and held on to with such pertinacity, as to require considerable effort at extrication. The smart from this squeezing lingered for many minutes afterwards—a suitable punishment for his temerity. Even when laid upon the palm of the hand it continued its rapid twitchings from side to side, and with gaping jaws, as if still conscious of hidden danger, ready to vent the full measure of its infuriated passion upon anything that should come within their scope.

In conclusion, I am sorry to say that my *vivarium* having been unduly tampered with during my absence, this caterpillar, which was always exceedingly restless under confinement, effected its escape. On the discovery of the fact diligent search was commenced, but no clue to its whereabouts could be obtained—it, doubtless, like many of its unfortunate kind, having become a rich morsel for some insect-loving bird. I trust to be able during the gradually approaching season to secure similar larvæ and bring them to the imago or moth condition.

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