

coming across a locality near Quebec, where a kind of long grass was growing. I noticed that the tops of several of the blades of grass were bent in a curious manner. This led me to open one of them, and in it and other specimens I found a spider undergoing moult. There was very little silk used in this form, which was constructed as follows: The spider first bent the top of a blade of grass downwards to a certain distance, attaching two of the edges together with silk; when it found this firm, it next proceeded to bend the remaining portion of the top upwards, thus inclosing itself in an oblong triangular cell, about an inch and a half long. This was indeed an ingenious contrivance to keep off its enemies.

I am anxious to obtain further information regarding the spiders that are found in this latitude, and which do not make use of silk, as a whole, to cover themselves or their eggs.

HABITS OF MELITÆA PHAETON.

I notice in the ENTOMOLOGIST, N. 4, some remarks on *Melitæa Phaeton*. I think there is something exceptional in the habits of this species, and I hope the observations of your correspondents may give us light.

On 1st May, 1863, one of my young friends in this neighborhood brought me eleven chrysalids of *Phaeton*, part of which he had found suspended to fence rails. He reported the caterpillars as crawling along the rails, and that he had tried to bring me some of them, but before he could reach me (living four miles distant) all that he had taken had changed to chrysalids. I directed him to search for the food plant.

He returned two or three times, and up to 18th May had brought me 80 chrysalids and but two larvæ, the latter of which changed within a few hours after I received them. My friend reported that he had taken part of the larvæ from the pawpaw bushes, on which they seemed to be crawling and not feeding, and could give me no more information on the subject. I was unable to go personally to the spot, but next May will endeavor to investigate fully. From all these chrysalids I scarcely obtained half a dozen butterflies, and part of these were cripples. They began to emerge on 18th May. These larvæ probably came from eggs laid the previous May or June, for there certainly is but one brood annually hereabouts. I have taken the butterfly in no year later than the end of June, and they could not have escaped my notice or the notice of some of my collectors here, if they had appeared later, or in a second brood. Vegetation with us is far advanced by 1st May, and by 1st April our shrubs are partly leaved out, so that larvæ emerging from the egg early in April would be at maturity early in May.