

*Diana* fixed on the 17th, and became a chrysalis on the 19th, the interval being about fifty-four hours. This yielded a butterfly on the 9th of June, after twenty to twenty-one days. The chrysalids of the three bore a strong likeness to each other, being all of the same general shape, and I may say in brief that they would be tolerably represented by the figure of the chrysalis of *A. aglaia*, in Humphrey's British Butterflies, although much larger than that figure. The length of *cybele* and *diana* was rather over one inch; *aphrodite* was as long, but more slender than the others, and it, as well as *diana*, was prettily streaked and variegated in brown and red; *cybele* was plain brown, and in one case yellow brown, with little ornamentation. By Miss Peart's assistance I was able to obtain a complete series of drawings from egg to chrysalis of each species, and of the several moults of each, and I propose to introduce these figures in course of Vol. 2, Butterflies of N. A.

*Cybele* was flying this year at Coalburgh, on the 1st of June, and these early examples must have come from larvae that began to feed after hybernation in March, as the food plant then would first appear above ground, so that the larval period after hybernation, when in the natural state, would be two months shorter than in the cases related above.

With regard to the food plant, I used every species of wild violet accessible from the woods, and during the winter cultivated species, and discovered no preference for one more than another. The wild violets were in flower part of the time, and the flowers were eaten by the caterpillars with avidity. The contrast between the habits of these larvae and those of other genera not far separated from them, according to the received arrangement, is something remarkable—as *Grapha*, for instance. One is in the preparatory stages nine months in the year, is impatient of confinement, extremely tender and raised only by the greatest care; the other is hardy, indifferent to confinement, and completes its cycle in about thirty days, from the laying of the egg to the appearance of the butterfly; one is single brooded, the other many brooded, at Coalburgh there being three or four. The number is probably dependant in any latitude upon the length of the season.

There are one or two points in the life history of the larger Argynnides that are not yet clear. With us, *cybele* ♂ is on the wing from the 25th of May to the 10th of June, as I have noticed for several successive years. Probably *aphrodite* nearly as soon, and *diana* first appears about the 20th of June. Shortly after the 1st of June the ♀ of