

This year, during July, various sections of the country have been covered with a worm of various sizes, but sometimes as large as $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and near a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch in diameter. As I remember it now, it had two pairs of legs forward and three pairs aft, and varied in color with its food supply, some specimens being a bright green and grading from that to nearly black. The worm did immense damage to growing alfalfa and grasses, but so far as I am advised, did not trouble the trees. After the passing of the worm, this butterfly developed, which in its original swarming filled the air with myriads of them, and at this place the entire swarm was headed in one general direction, west, in very rapid flight."

Our next report for 1911, by a coincidence, was of the same date—August 25—from Mr. J. J. Monroe, of Willow Ranch, California, whose letter appears to be of sufficient interest to give in full.

"About June 1, of the present year, an old gardener told me that he noticed many of the specimens of butterfly I send you flitting about his garden and alfalfa fields. About six weeks later many of the destructive larvæ were noticed in the alfalfa fields and in gardens. Thousands of the larvæ left the hay (alfalfa) that I hauled into my barn and attacked one of my gardens which was nearby—i.e., 30 or 40 feet from the barn. They ate any kind of green vegetation—potato tops, peach tree leaves, garden weeds of any and all kinds, gooseberry leaves; in fact, apparently any and all kinds of green vegetation except death-weed. The larvæ have very much the appearance of the ordinary cutworm in the earlier stages of its growth, but it grows to be larger and much longer than the ordinary cutworm, and in the latter stages of the larval growth is of a light green color. Many of the larvæ attain a length of at least two inches, and some a length of probably as much as two and one-half inches. These larvæ while in my garden worked at night—i.e., during the darkness. Looking in the daytime, it was remarkable to find in sight even one larva, but they could be found in abundance in the ground about one inch from the surface. The domestic hen and the ordinary blackbird are very fond of both the larvæ and of the butterfly. The larvæ have destroyed quite an amount of alfalfa that was to be cut for seed, and also some alfalfa that would have been a second cutting