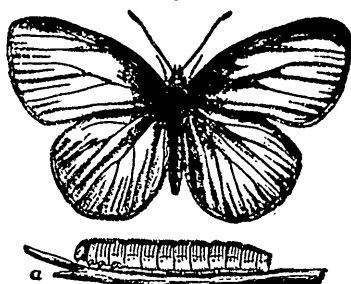


body the forewings are slightly discoloured with dusky scales. On the under surface the wings are sometimes of a yellowish hue, with the veins broadly marked with black or dark green; sometimes they are entirely white, with the veins merely faintly outlined in black; between these two extremes many gradations of shade may be observed. The pure white specimens found in the North West were supposed at one time to be a distinct species, and were described by Kirby under the name of the "Chaste Butterfly" (*P. Casta*); there is no doubt now, however, that these are merely varieties of the same species. The legs and body of the insect are black; its wings expand to a breadth of about two inches, but there is considerable variation in the size of individuals.



The butterfly, about the end of May or beginning of June, and again towards the close of summer, may be seen hovering over the food-plants of its larvæ, preparing to deposit its eggs. These are pear-shaped, or oval, of a yellow-green colour, and measure about one-twentieth of an inch in length, and a third of this amount in diameter; they are ribbed longitudinally with about fifteen sharp-edged lines. The parent deposits them singly, and rarely more than one on a leaf, on the under side of the leaves of the cabbage, turnip, radish, mustard and other plants of the order *Crucifera*. They are hatched in about a week or ten days.

The young larva is pale green, cylindrical in shape, and covered with short, whitish hairs. In order to escape from the egg it makes an opening with its jaws and then eats the shell until the aperture is large enough to admit of its easy egress; it subsequently devours the greater part of the shell that remains. At first the new-born caterpillar is less than one-twelfth of an inch in length, but it grows rapidly, until it attains its full size, about an inch and a quarter, in the brief space of a fortnight. The mature larva (Fig. 7, *a*) is pale green in colour, with numerous darker dots and a dark line along the back; it closely resembles the ribs of the leaf upon which it feeds.

When mature, the caterpillar forsakes its food plant and crawls away to some secluded spot, such as the under side of a stone or board, or a crevice in a fence or wall; there it spins a knot of silk to which it fastens its hindermost pair of feet; then it proceeds to form a loop of silk which