

leg sub-quadrangular, warty and pubescent, and surmounted by a triangular supra-anal plate of a dark purplish color, with the apex directed posteriorly.

Prothoracic and first and abdominal rings are furnished each with a pair of transversely oval, yellowish spiracles. Inferior aspect of the larva is marked with clusters of white spots, relieving the monotony of the purple. Last abdominal segment surmounted by a moderately long recurved horn, yellowish brown in color, and bearing scattered gland like bodies, which manifest a tendency to become spines. Length nearly 3 inches. Taken in Germantown during the first week of September, while feeding upon the leaves of *Polygonum pennsylvanicum*.

This larva, belonging, as it does, to the family Sphingidæ, is undoubtedly rare, as it is the only one that I have met with in all my entomological rambles; nor can I find in any of the works at my command a description, still less a figure thereof. In some respects it resembles the full-grown larva of *Sphinx euphorbia*, described and figured in "Transformation of Insects," by Dr. Duncan; in others it differs very materially therefrom. In the Euphorbia Sphinx the yellow points are scattered promiscuously over the dorsal and lateral surfaces of the body, but in the specimen under consideration they are arranged with some view to order. There is a still further resemblance in the irregular spots which flank the sides, just beneath the line of stigmata, and in the general color, the former being black, and the latter a rich dark purple. It differs from the former in being devoid of the three longitudinal lines of carmine tint, which is a prominent feature of it, and also in being more tapering anteriorly.

There is one character in the life history of this larva which struck me as peculiarly novel and interesting, and which deserves to be placed upon record. Instead of assuming the peculiar Sphinx-like attitude in a state of rest, (whence the popular name of Sphinx is derived), and which is so familiar to entomological students as well as the outside world, it curves its body, bringing the head and tail in close proximity, reminding one of the position which is so easily and readily taken by the larva of *Cimberis ulmi*, Reek.

It cannot be denied that this is its natural posture in a state of inaction. To assure myself that a position which seemed so natural and easy to the worm was not an occasional one, I was permitted in the