

to any one in particular. By way of illustrating the former, I might mention *Quinque Maculata* whose green caterpillar, with lateral stripes and spotted body, is so destructive to the tomato. It will be noticed in the instances enumerated above, that one is as destructive in its depredations as the other is useful, hence the value of the study of Entomology, by means of which, more by observation than theory, we are able to refer each species to its respective class either beneficial or injurious. The favorite food of *milberti*, as has been previously mentioned, is the nettle, so that when nettles are plentiful, the following year we may expect to see numbers of *milberti*; and by these propagating their species, they in their turn so subdue the nettles that the following year is marked by their almost total annihilation, which must in a consummate degree reflect in a like manner on its destroyers. Consequent upon this, the nettles once more gain strength, but only to be again defeated when *milberti* has recovered from its stagnation. The above is a good illustration of the fact that some species are very abundant at one period while at another they are only noticeable by their absence. These fluctuations are often noticed in many of the *Vanesæ* and other butterflies, but cannot always be attributed to the same cause; for temperature, birds and ichneumons, as well as the absence of plant food, all tend to keep them in their respective places.

The more we look into the matter, the more we see the relation between the animal and the vegetable worlds. In the instances before mentioned we have one dependent on the other, which is in turn subdued thereby.

Were it not for this insect I have reason to believe that the nettle would be one of our most noxious weeds, but since it is kept down in the manner before stated, we have no fear that its spread will increase. I may say that almost all nettles I have come across have been literally crowded with its larvæ, but it would be difficult to say how many of these changed to perfect imagos as no doubt parasites attack them in the same way they do *V. antiopa*, which from my own observation is considerable, for out of eight chrysalids collected one afternoon, not one was alive, but each case completely filled with other pupæ. I have now shown the part *Vanessa Milberti* plays in the economy of nature, but before concluding I would impress upon my readers the importance of a thorough knowledge of entomology before dispatching any of our commonest insects. And what an injury we inflict upon ourselves in many cases by violating the laws of nature! We must learn to distinguish our friends from our foes, the beneficial from the injurious. Before we do this we must have some knowledge of that science which treats on the sub-