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NOTES ON ARGYNNIS CYBELE.

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On the 7th of June, while turning over some loose rails lying on a moist piece of ground, near the edge of a wood, I found attached to the underside of one of the rails, lying high and dry, two spinous larvæ, which, from their appearance and location, I at once suspected to be the larvæ of some species of *Argynnis*. The Wild Violet also, the food plant of at least several of this family, growing in abundance here, helped to confirm my suppositions. These afterwards proved to be the larvæ of *Argynnis cybele*. Both larvæ were in the act of spinning a small web of silk, to which their terminal prolegs were attached, indicating that the change to the chrysalis state would soon take place. The following description was at once taken:-

Length 1.70 inches. Body thickest along the middle segments, tapering a little at each end, coils itself up when disturbed.

Head medium sized, flat in front, slightly bilobed, each lobe tipped above with a short tubercle, from which arises a moderately long black hair; colour black in front, edged posteriorly above, and half way down the sides with dull brownish-yellow. On the front there are many fine black hairs of varying lengths.

Body above black, with a faint tinge of reddish brown, armed with a transverse row of branching spines on each segment. On the second segment there is a branching spine on each side the dorsal line all black, and another pair on sides between the second and third segments, black above, brownish-yellow at base. On the third segment there are four spines similarly situated, that is, one sub-dorsal pair, and another pair lower down, and placed between the third and fourth segments, all black above, brownish yellow at base. On the fourth segment there is one pair of spines only, the sub-dorsal. From the fifth to the twelfth segments inclusive, each is alike ornamented with a transverse row of six branching spines, those on each side the dorsal line entirely black, or