

these larvæ were readily distinguished from their vigorous brethren in many particulars, such as size, color and markings. And, further, that in some cases growth was delayed, and even the time of moulting more than doubled; while, in others, either the first or second moulting was entirely dispensed with. An examination of their chrysalids reveals the startling fact that out of some twenty in my possession, all, with two exceptions, are masculine in character.

The question is often asked—Are there any checks to the undue multiplication of *cacropia* in the shape of natural enemies? I answer in the affirmative. Certain species of *aves* prey upon them. But no enemies are more destructive than two of our commonest species of spiders, *Tegenaria medicinalis* and *Agelena nœvia*, the former of which constructs its web upon bushes of the red currant, using a curled leaf for a tube. I have noticed the above species on numerous occasions engaged in dragging caterpillars into its dens. It is only while the caterpillars are young, before the first moulting has taken place, that these attacks are ventured upon. *Dermestes lardarius*, in the larval state, frequently attacks the living chrysalis when divested of its cocoon, and does not cease from its ravages until it has reduced it to a mere hull. Even the chitinous covering shares the fate of the softer parts within. In a few instances, these larvæ had penetrated the only door of entrance, by gnawing their way through the comparatively loose fibres of silk which occupy the centre of the basal extremity. Their presence was only detected by the removal of the cocoon. Several cocoons which I have in a warm room have recently yielded fine specimens of the following parasites: *Ophion macrum* Linn., *Exorista militaris* Walsh, *Chalcis maria* Riley, and *Cryptus nuncius* Say—the *extrematis* of Cresson. At least one out of every three which I raised during the past season, and the number was not short of two hundred specimens, has been infested.

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THE NATURALISTS' DIRECTORY.—This pamphlet, recently issued, will prove a great convenience to all those interested in science. It contains the names of Naturalists, Chemists, Physicists, and Meteorologists, arranged alphabetically, the several departments separately indexed. It is well printed and interleaved with blank paper, on which additional names may be written. It is published by the Naturalists' Agency, Salem, Mass.