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## THE HABITS OF THE POMEGRANATE BUTTERFLY (*VIRACHOLA ISOCRATES*) OF INDIA, AS RECOUNTED BY DE NICEVILLE, (BUTT. INDIA, III., 478-481).

LARVA .8 of an inch in length when full grown; ground-colour blackish-brown, the constrictions between the segments well marked, the head comparatively large, fuscous, covered with rugosities or short semi-circular tubercles, the segments rapidly increasing in size to the fourth, then gradually tapering to the thirteenth, which latter is about as wide as the second segment; second segment anteriorly flesh-coloured, the third segment entirely flesh-coloured, the seventh and eighth bearing a large dorsal square flesh-coloured patch, the three anal segments scutate, all the segments widely pitted and covered with short but coarse black bristles, which are more numerous at the sides and whitish. This larva is very ugly, to be accounted for, perhaps, by its passing its life out of sight in the interior of a fruit. In Calcutta I have reared the larva on the fruit of the *Randia dumetorum* Lamk., which belongs to the Madder family (*Rubiaceæ*). I once found a larva in the fruit of the Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica* Lindl.), of which it ate the hard central seed or stone only. It emerged on April 4th. Messrs. F. E. Partiger and E. C. Cotes have bred it from the fruit of the Guava (*Psidium guava* Raddi.). Its usual food appears, however, to be the fruit of the pomegranate (*Punica granatum* Linnæus).

PUPA of the usual lycænid shape, brown, marked with a dorsal and lateral black line, the whole surface very rough, covered with tiny pits, furnished with a few short coarse bristles, which are most numerous round the sharp anterior ridge which encloses the head; the wing-cases pale ochreous; head rounded; anal segment blunt.

“This butterfly [*Virachola isocrates*] resides in the larva state in the interior of the pomegranate, seven or eight at least [This is very unusual. I have never found more than one larva or pupa in a single fruit; two or