

The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. XVIII.

LONDON, AUGUST, 1886.

No. 8

ON THE HISTORY AND THE PREPARATORY STAGES OF FENESICA TARQUINIUS, FABR.

BY W. H. EDWARDS, COALBURGH, W. VA.

Nothing has been known of the history or earlier stages of this butterfly till quite recently, except what Boisduval and LeConte (1833) gave, both plate and text having been copied from Abbot (about 1800). On the plate the mature larva is represented as lying on a leaf of Hawthorn, and the chrysalis is attached to a stem of same. The larva is green and white-striped, and neither in coloration nor shape resembles the real larva, and the description in the text is made up from the figure. The chrysalis is a little better. The larva (according to Abbot) "lives upon *Cratægus*, and the species is very scarce." We also read that "this butterfly is plainly quite unlike the true *Polyommatus* in its caterpillar and the shape of its chrysalis. Godart, who knew this species only by the description of Fabricius, wrongly believed that it was an *Erycina*." Boisduval puts it in *Polyommatus* with *Phleas*.

The late Professor Glover figured the mature larva and the chrysalis on plate xxii of his *Lepidoptera*, but the larva is surprisingly ill-done, being studded with round knobs that have no place in nature. The chrysalis is fairly done, and both dorsal and side views are given. On another plate is copied Boisduval's figures with no alteration (B., fig. 5). Mr. Glover told me that the larva fed on Hawthorn, and I believe that plant alone is written in his original work.

Many authors have spoken of the butterfly, and according to Prof. Riley, Mr. Scudder has given quite a list of food plants in different papers, as *Alnus*, *Ribesia*, *Vaccinium*, *Viburnum*, and conjecturally, *Arrow-wood*, *Elder*, *Hawthorn*.

At a meeting of the Ent. Soc. of Washington, 6th Jan., 1886, "a letter was read from Mr. C. L. Johnson, stating that he had observed a lepidopterous larva feeding on a species of *Aphid*, and had bred the insect to maturity. Mr. Lugger stated that the larva was that of *F. Tarquinius*,