

## SMERINTHUS OPHTHALMICUS, BD.

In the July number of CAN. ENT., page 143, Prof. French described the larval stages of this species but did not observe the egg and first stage. These I can supply, as follows:—

*Egg*.—Elliptical, flattened above and below, smooth, slightly shiny; colour probably green. Under the microscope it is seen to be covered with crowded minute shallow depressions. Dimensions,  $2.0 \times 1.8 \times 1.3$  mm. Laid singly on under surface of leaf.

*First Larval Stage*.—Head rounded, slightly bilobed, not pointed as in the next stage, green, slightly shiny, and dotted with yellow, but not granulated, with a curved yellow line from before the eyes on each side, meeting each other below the vertex. Antennæ and labrum white; jaws and ocelli black. Width, 1 mm. Body annulated, minutely pilose and dotted with yellow, with a distinct pale yellow subdorsal line and oblique lateral lines on joints 5–12, occurring above and below the subdorsal line, but dislocated, except on joint 12 where a single distinct line runs to the base of the horn. Horn minutely pilose, dark red, pale at base, 2 mm long.

The second stage is as described by Prof. French; width of head, 1.5 mm.

*Food Plant*.—Poplar (*Populus*). Larvæ from Mariposa County, California. HARRISON G. DYAR.<sup>2</sup>

## CORRESPONDENCE

## MELITÆA PHAETON.

*Sir*,—While spending a few days in Ottawa, during July of last year, I was fortunate enough to find a batch of the larvæ of *Melitæa phaeton*, which composed a large colony in their tent-like web upon the tip of a robust stem of *Chelone glabra*, which is their favorite food plant in that district. I was anxious to breed the species, so boxed the whole colony and brought it back with me to Port Hope. Here, however, I could not find any plants of *Chelone glabra*. Upon turning up Scudder's "New England Butterflies," I found that honeysuckle, *Lonicera*, was given as a food plant. I first offered the larvæ leaves of trumpet honeysuckle, obtained from a neighbour; but, as this was not convenient, I resolved to try them on Tartarian honeysuckle, of which an abundance grew in the