

is small, and both the upper and lower surfaces are perfectly accessible, the absence of leaves is but little missed. But, on the other hand, where these substitutes do not exist, the chrysalis has been known to appear without the customary covering.

This fact seems to point to the conclusion that the cocoon is only a subsequent acquirement, which did not primarily exist. In climates where rains are of common occurrence, as protecting envelopes, they are indispensable. A chrysalis will endure a very low temperature while comparatively passive, with perfect impunity; but cannot endure excessive moisture without destruction.

Of the exact time which the chrysalis requires to develop into the imago, I can only say that it depends upon thermometric conditions; were the several larval transformations undergone in early summer, while the mercury is standing at 92 degrees, and were the chrysalis stage then assumed, it is probable that the moth would appear in about two weeks. We reason from analogy. *Actias luna* requires but a single day less than a fortnight to pass from the condition of pupa to that of imago, and surely *cecropia* could scarcely surpass this period. Cocoons that have been taken into the house in August, and kept close to a hot stove, have developed in January; while those which have been left out doors, seldom change before the middle of May. As far as I have been able to ascertain, this species is single-brooded.

Before bringing this sketch to a close, there are a few particulars which I shall touch upon, that came under my immediate notice during the season that has passed. It is a mistaken impression that caterpillars of particular species confine their feeding to certain plant-species, exclusively. During several years past, I have closely looked into this subject, and my experience has been otherwise. My observations upon *cecropia* have been both interesting and remarkable. In the neighborhood of Germantown, the leaves of the common red currant, constitute its favorite food. During the first and second stages, by which I mean the intervals before and after the first moulting, it entirely restricts its feeding thereto. But after the second moulting, it readily accustoms itself to *Ribes nigrum*, *R. grossularia*, *Prunus cerasus*, *P. vulgaris*, *Rosa blanda* and *Spiraea corymbosa*. A little later, I have tried numerous larvæ upon *Wistaria sinensis*, *Philadelphus inodorus*, *Syringa vulgaris* and *Prunus serotina*, with remarkable success. Subsequent to the last moulting, several caterpillars were induced to feed upon *Symphoricarpos racemosus*. Some cocoons which were produced by