

Tent Caterpillar-Moth. In the caterpillar stage, this insect has several times ruined the fruit crop in different parts of Utah. The eggs are



Fig. 8. Tent Caterpillar Moth.*

deposited in clusters around the twigs and smaller branches of fruit trees, and are protected from injury by a water-proof covering. The caterpillars are beautiful creatures, in spite of their destructive nature. They spin for themselves a kind of web of silk, in which they rest at times, and this explains the name of Tent Caterpillar by which they are known. The moth measures about an inch and a half, with wings expanded; in color it is reddish brown, with two light-colored lines passing obliquely across the front wings.

Now let us glance at one of our common butterflies.



Fig. 9. Larva of Asterias Butterfly.

Figure 9 shows the larva of the dark-colored butterfly, called the Asterias. It is a pretty caterpillar, usually found on carrot, parsnip and celery plants. It is generally of a green color, with a band of yellow and black on each segment of its body. If disturbed, it has the power of emitting a disagreeable odor, which seems to emanate from a pair of orange-colored horns that protrude from the head, when the creature is touched.

The chrysalis (Fig. 10) is strange. Instead of a cocoon, the caterpillar spins little more than a loop of silk, upon which it rests as if swung in a hammock, while developing into a pupa. The change is complete in a couple of weeks, when the imago issues. The butterfly itself, is almost black, with rows of yellow dots along the back, and similar

markings across the wings. There are also rows of blue spots.



Fig. 10. Pupa of Asterias.

This beautiful insect is known among the boys as the Black Warrior.

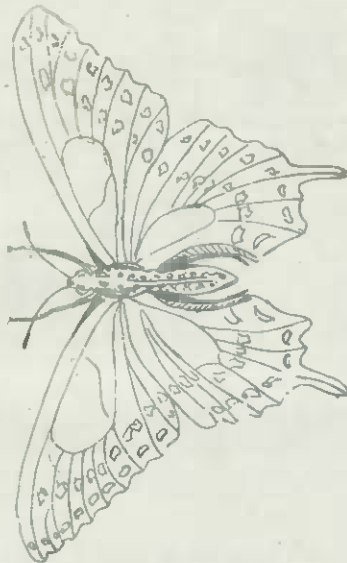


Fig. 11. Asterias Butterfly.

The hairy larva of the Salt Marsh Moth offers a marked contrast to the smooth-skinned caterpillars before described. In color it is a deep orange and black.

The pupa developed from this caterpillar is small and inconspicuous (Fig. 13) and the imago (Fig.

14) is strange. The latter expands about two inches, with a mixture of



Fig. 12. Larva of Salt Marsh Moth.

white and yellow on its body, and wings spotted with black.



Fig. 13. Pupa of Salt Marsh Moth.

Our well-known mosquito, undergoes many strange changes in the course of its life. The larvae are the



Fig. 14. Salt Marsh Moth.

lively little creatures called wigglers or wiggletails, with which stagnant ponds often swarm in summer and autumn. They rest in the water with their heads hanging down, and breathe through tubes attached to the hind end of the body. As pupae, they live at the surface of the water. "In a few days," says a noted naturalist, "the skin splits on the back, the winged insect appears, and after resting awhile on its empty skin as it floats upon the water, spreads its wings, and, humming its war-note, flies away in search of a victim whom it may pierce for blood."

The various changes are well shown in Figure 15.

Such are some of the strange stages, occurring in the course of an insect's life. Are they not as wonderful as any fairy tales of miracu-



Fig. 15. The Mosquito.—Male, female, imago, pupa and larva.

* Figures 8 and 13 are taken from "First Book of Nature," and therein by permission copied from *St. etc's Zoology*.