

a little over a week on "hard-tack," they were transferred to fresh leaves of *Rhododendron*, which was then beginning to bud. This food they ate with great relish, and the change was very striking. They began to grow rapidly and became very active. After passing two more moults they finally spun their cocoons, from which emerged, about one week later a perfect male moth. The other pupa did not hatch. It was at one time supposed that *H. lilith* was a valid species. I have carefully compared the larva with that of the type form, *H. io*, but could not detect the slightest difference, either in shape, coloration or markings. Mrs. Slosson, however, informs me that the young larva of *lilith* is much paler in color than that of *io*.

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## THE EARTHWORM AS A TREE-PLANTER.

By F. M. WEBSTER.

The habit of drawing the leaves and stems of various plants into their burrows has been frequently noticed of these worms, and Darwin, in his classic work, has cited many instances of this character. I have more than once surprised them tugging at a leaf of grass that was attached to the stem, the latter sometimes being bent to the ground by their exertions. This spring a small patch of sward had been spaded up with a view of planting flowers thereon, but the ground lay for sometime untouched, and was observed to be quite thickly populated by earthworms, and the openings of their vertical homes were very numerous after a rain had fallen and formed a slight crust over the surface of the ground. About this time a maple tree close by began dropping its seeds and quite a number fell on the still undisturbed flower bed. In a short time many of these seeds assumed a vertical position, while in other places a number would be grouped together, obliquely, forming a sort of rosette. A little patience and careful watching showed that the maple seeds had been drawn into the homes of these creatures, and, as many of the seeds afterwards germinated and grew, if left undisturbed, they might have made a small forest, the planters thereof having worked without hands, and with little knowledge of their influence upon the vegetable that they had only attempted to secure as a morsel of food.



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