

DESCRIPTIVE



BUTTERFLIES have been often compared fancifully to flowers.

They are certainly like them, in that each kind has its own season for appearing in perfect bloom; thus they together variegate the landscape in the Summer season. They are found in greater or less numbers in all of the warm Countries where they first commence to appear in the earlier breaking up of the Winter and continue far into the late Fall.

Butterflies are divided into several groups—first, the BRUSH FOOTED butterfly; so called because the front pair of legs is converted into hairy paws, useless for walking and only good for toilet purposes This group includes about one-half of the butterflies known.

The second group, the LONG WINGED butterflies, includes a considerable number of species, with long, rounded wings. These are found principally in tropical and semi-tropical Countries.

Beginning life as an egg, which is usually hatched within a few days after being laid, the young caterpillar finds its sole duty to be to eat. It out grows its skin so fast that it is obliged to moult four or five times before it is full grown. On each occasion it stops feeding for a while, the old skin splits along the middle of the back, and by violent muscular effort the head case (from which the new head was first withdrawn) is shaken off and the creature crawls out of its old skin, which in many instances it thereupon devours. This changing takes place several times before the butterfly emerges from the shell.

Most butterflies when at rest close their hind wings back to back, and sink the fore wings as far forward as possible. This affords them concealment and protection.

MOTHS

Moths are much more numerous than butterflies, as their numbers reach into the thousands. We show a few of the most common ones, such as the TIGER moth with their black and cream colored fore wings and red and black hind wings, which frequent gardens and are reared from reddish brown caterpillars with long hair. This moth flies to candles and buzzes over flowers in the evening.

CLOTHES MOTHS, familar to everybody, are represented by an enormous family of small moths.

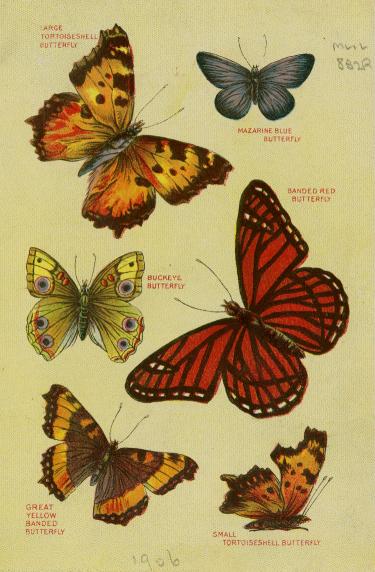
SILK WORM

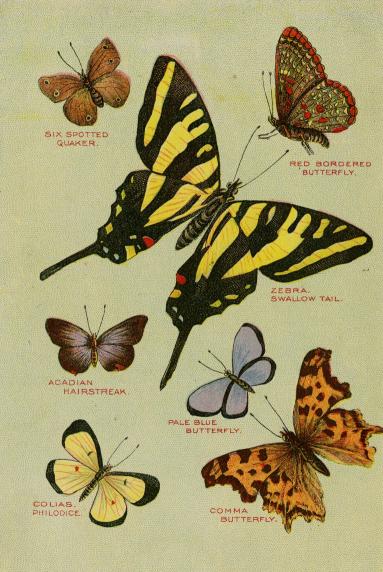
A word about this insect which far surpasses all butterflies and moths in their importance to mankind, on account of the valuable product, silk, which comes from their cocoons. This industry dates back to 2200 years before Christ, where it formed an important industry of China.

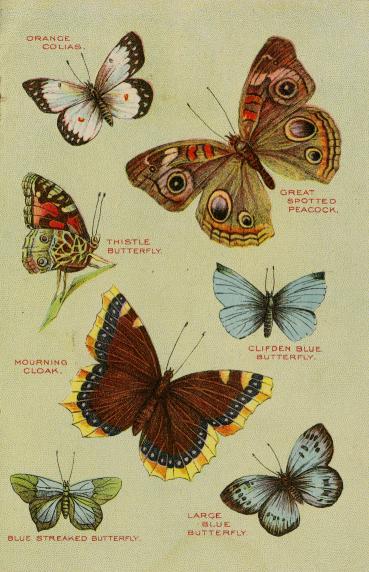
Silk is, however, now obtained in different parts of the World from the ecocoms of various other moths, but their product is only of local importance, and is not likely to compete with the mulberry silk worm of China.

The best way to begin to appreciate butterflies and moths is to commence to study the various species in and about your own home.













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