

along the crest ; posterior edge of the ventral segments and genital pieces pale, the valves above fulvous.

Elytra transparent ; basal third smoky-brown, omitting the humerus and costal region ; a broad brown band occupies the apical third of the costa, and narrows to about one-half this width at the internal apical angle ; this band includes a clear spot on its costal base, and omits about six of the apical areoles. In the female, this costal, clear spot is much larger than in the male, and coalesces with the clear, apical areoles. The veins are sanguineous within the limits of the brown, apical band, and in the stigmal region are broadly bordered with the same color ; this color also appears in the veins of the basal brown patch in deeply colored examples. Wings clear, with a smoky tip, and a larger, slightly suffused, area at the base.

Described from five individuals—a pair taken *in coitu* Sept. 3rd, 1888, two females taken the same day, and another female taken by W. J. Palmer, Jr., of this city, a week later, all at Lancaster, N. Y. Three of these were beaten from maples, and two from uncertain trees—probably maple or beech.

I take pleasure in dedicating this beautiful little species to our leading American Hemipterist, Mr. P. R. Uhler, whose disinterested and unflinching kindness has been an inspiration and help to me in my studies of these insects.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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##### GRAPTA J-ALBUM.

*Dear Sir :* Having heard that the larvæ and food-plant of *Grapta j-album* were unknown, I thought that I should do well in informing you, since you could best make known my little discovery, that I have bred the butterfly from young larvæ, which fed on silver birch (*Betula papyrifera*). Not knowing what they were, I neglected to make a long or careful description of them ; nevertheless, I hope the following observations may be of some value :—The larvæ were black, with two dorsal, two sub-dorsal and two super-stigmal rows of white spots and smudges, three or four on each segment,\* with one dorsal and two sub-dorsal rows of shining black, branching spines ; two super-stigmal rows tipped with red, and two sub-

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\* There were also other smaller white spots scattered over the body.

stigmatal rows pale red. Underneath yellowish-green, and in some places reddish, speckled with white; 12th segment reddish, both above and below; head black, and covered with many hard, white, conical tubercles, or short spines; somewhat cordate, with two thick, black, branching spines at the upper corners like horns. The chrysalids were about one inch long, pale green or light brown, sometimes with a reddish tinge, with two sub-dorsal rows of tubercles, eight in each row, the first six of these being bright, shining silver (in some lights gold) in colour. Like the other Grapta chrysalids, they were suspended by a button of silk at the tail. Before the imagos appeared, the colour and venation of the wings could be seen through the transparent outer covering. I found them on the 26th of May, 1889, when they were about eight inches long. On the 9th of June, they were two inches long. They moulted three times, and their appearance remained almost unaltered. They hung themselves up on the 13th of June, being then about 2.25 inches long, and on the 14th transformed. The imagos appeared on the 29th and 30th of June. I had altogether eight of these larvæ. The following is a description of a variety of the same larvæ taken at a later date:—On the 16th of June, I found the larva feeding, like the former batch, on the silver birch. Length about one inch. On the 17th it moulted, after which it was 1.5 inches long; colour purplish white and amber, with a dorsal band of white clouds, and some on the sides; white underneath; one dorsal, two sub-dorsal, two super and two sub-stigmatal rows of branching spines on segments 4 to 11, 2 to 11, 2 to 12 and 2 to 11 respectively. These spines were supported by tubercles, and the dorsal, sub-dorsal and super-stigmatal were black, except the last two super-stigmatal; the rest were yellow and white. Head somewhat cordate and pale white, with two black branching spines at the upper corners like horns, and covered with small conical tubercles; upper corners black, and a dark mark like an inverted V over the jaws. On the 23rd it moulted again, after which it was light green, with two dorsal bands, more or less distinctly separated, of white clouds, and some white lateral markings; spines black, except the super-stigmatal, which were brown and amber, and the sub-stigmatal, which were pale green and white; the spine tubercles were orange yellow; head white, and covered with small, white, conical spines; spiracles black. It was largest at the 7th segment, segment 1 being very small; length about 1.75 inch. The chrysalis (June 29th) was green, with a rosy tinge and rosy markings, and with two dorsal rows of tubercles, 16 in number, the first six being shining silver in colour; about one inch long, with a large dorsal lump and two smaller lateral ones, and two at the head; black markings on last segment. On the 9th of July the imago appeared. Note that in this, and in the former description, the head is *not* counted as the first segment.

PERCY M. DAWSON, Montreal.

Mailed September 6th.