

and to run on the water, which it does with such wonderful lightness as scarcely to cause the slightest motion on the surface. This insect is generally seen sporting on the rivers, and about their banks, especially under shady trees, and commonly great numbers of them together.

The common *Water Fly* breeds in the same manner as the preceding of this class. This insect is sometimes called the *Notoneeta*, because it does not swim, in the usual manner, upon its belly, but on its back; and which, indeed, seems to be highly necessary, since it feeds on the under side of plants which grow on the surface of the water; and it was therefore doubtless, thus formed with its mouth upwards to take its food with greater ease.

The *Water Scorpion* is a large insect, being nearly an inch in length, and about half an inch in breadth. Its body is nearly oval, but very flat and thin; its tail is long and pointed; its head is small, and the feelers appear like legs, resembling the claws of a scorpion, but without sharp points. This insect is generally found in ponds; it is extremely tyrannical and rapacious, and destroys twenty times as much as its hunger requires.