

Milbert's Tortoise Shell Butterfly

Milbert was a nettle nut  
Nothing would he eat  
But nutritious nettles  
Nifty, nice and neat.

Newborn Milbert nibbled.  
Never would he mettle  
With any but nutritious leaves  
Of the stinging nettle.

Milbert was a nettle nut  
Nothing would he eat  
But nutritious nettles  
Nifty, nice and neat.

Never nibbled nasty nightshade  
Or narrow, native grass.  
It will only nauseate.  
He'd politely say, "I pass."

Milbert was a nettle nut  
Nothing would he eat  
But nutritious nettles  
Nifty, nice and neat.

Nasturtiums did not nourish,  
Nor nuts so new and nice.  
He never nipped narcissus,  
Nor tried a wrong thing twice.

Milbert was a nettle nut  
Nothing would he eat  
But nutritious nettles  
Nifty, nice and neat.

Numerous nearby neighbors  
Never ate the nifty nettle.  
They never really ever knew  
Why Milbert needed nettles.

Milbert was a nettle nut  
Nothing would he eat  
But nutritious nettles  
Nifty, nice and neat.

Nettles' nasty needles

Milbert noisily munched.  
Neglected by his neighbors  
Were the nettles in his lunch.

Milbert was a nettle nut  
Nothing would he eat  
But nutritious nettles  
Nifty, nice and neat.

Milbert grew to be a butterfly  
Called Milbert's Tortoise Shell  
Neighbors found another niche  
Needed naturally as well.

Numerous natural nutrients  
In native niches grow.  
Nothing else will nourish  
Some forms of life we know.

Notice then the "nettle nut"  
And tiny "neighbors" with a need.  
Keep natural, native niches  
So all can live indeed!

Loretta Kuse