

## OTTAWA SATYRINÆ.

By A. E. RICHARD, Ottawa.

During the warm days of summer, grayish and dark brown butterflies may be seen flying in a characteristic slow and uncertain way ; they are called Satyrs, and like their namesakes of old may be found in our fields and forests.

The Satyrinæ are medium-sized butterflies, their wings usually adorned with ocelli or round eye-like spots ; in their larval state they feed on grasses and sedges. Some genera occur only in the cold wilderness of polar regions or on the snow-capped summits of mountains in warmer latitudes ; these lonely insects are believed by naturalists to be the remnants of the large numbers which existed during the glacial period ; the climate of the valley has become too warm for them. All the Satyrs, however, are not inhabitants of the cold north ; the greatest number of species, in fact, and we may say the most beautiful, are found in tropical countries.

Six species occur in Ottawa and its surroundings, namely : *Neonympha Eurytus* (Fabr.), *Satyroides Canthus* (Bd.-Lec.), *Satyrus Nephele* (Kirby), *Debis Portlandia* (Fabr.), *Chionobas Jutta* (Hbn.), and *Cœonympha Inornata* (Edw.) ; of these, the first three are common, while the latter three are of rare occurrence.

Mention may also be made here of two other rare Satyrs which may possibly be taken in this vicinity ; one of which, *Erebia Discoidalis* (Kirby), has been taken at Sudbury, Ont., by Mr. J. D. Evans, flying in May ; and the other, *Chionobas (Æneis) Macounii* (Edw.), perhaps the most remarkable species of the whole genus to which it belongs, was discovered at Nepigon by Prof. John Macoun, flying in July. The life history of this insect has been worked out from the egg by Dr. Fletcher ; this butterfly differs from all the other known species of the genus by the absence of the peculiar band of dark special scales or androconia which are such a conspicuous feature of the fore-wings of the males of the genus *Chionobas (Æneis)*.

After the snow has melted, *Neonympha Eurytus* is the first species to appear ; this Satyr flies at the end of May and through-