

FOOD PLANTS OF H. MAIA.

DEAR SIR,

I am reminded by Robert Bunker's remarks on the food plant of *Hemileuca maia* (p. 119, of current volume of CAN. ENT.) that in 1874, in a circular issued from the Department of Public Instruction of the State of Illinois, I wrote the following:

"Our savants in Entomological lore give Oak, Willow and Spiraea as usual food plants for the larvae of *Hemileuca maia*, but here, on or near these spacious marshes [along Calumet River, south of Chicago] these plants are scarcely abundant enough to warrant so numerous an array of the perfect insect. The unavoidable inference, therefore, is that either some other food plant is specially abundant in the locality, or else some other feature of the neighborhood which, perhaps, has hitherto escaped the attention of Entomologists, constitutes to them a strong attraction."

The tract of country alluded to is just such a swampy locality as Mr. Bunker speaks of in his communication. No doubt the list of food plants for these larvae is yet far from complete.

O. S. WESTCOTT, Racine, Wis.

DEAR SIR,—

From among numerous fine captures during this last season I mention the following as being of especial interest to many collectors, as they were taken in the Township of Roselle, New Jersey:

Sept. 1st—*Catocala marmorata*, *relicta* and *unijuga*. The former was resting upon a white oak.

The following Sphingidæ in larval form are secured; the first is of exceeding great rarity: *Smerinthus astylus* and *nyops*; *Cressonia juglandis*; *Darapsa versicolor*.

GEO. W. PECK, 226 Pearl St., New York.

DEAR SIR,

I would suggest that the "seeming growth" observed by Mr. Aaron on the eye of *P. philenor* is nothing but the pollen of the flowers visited for honey by the butterfly. In this way Darwinists believe that cross-fertilization is effected in many plants, and they show also that such cross-fertilization is beneficial to plants.

A. R. GROTE, Buffalo, N. Y.