

surprised how it could be possible for certain species to run through all their transformations in so short a time.

R. McLachlan, in his paper on the insects of Grinnell Land (Journ. Linn. Soc., Zoology, vol. xiv.), refers to the difficulties which the shortness of the summer interposes to the development of insects, and intimates his suspicion that a development which would with us take place in a single summer would there require several summers.

The correctness of this suspicion has been completely established by the interesting observations on species of *Lepidoptera* in South Waranger, in latitude  $69^{\circ} 40'$ , made by G. Sandberg. He was successful in watching the development of some extreme Northern species from the egg.

Let us take as an example *Oeneis Bore*, Schn., a true hyperborean butterfly, which has never been found outside the Arctic circle\*, and even there only occurs in places which bear a truly Arctic stamp.

The imago flies from the middle of June onwards, and lays its eggs on various species of grass. The eggs are hatched the same summer; the larva hibernates below the surface of the earth, feeds and grows all through the following summer, but does not succeed in attaining its full size; it then hibernates a second time, and does not assume the pupa state till the spring of the following year.

The pupa, which in the allied forms in more southern localities is freely suspended in the air to a grass-stem or some similar object, here reposes in the earth, which in so inclement a climate must evidently be a great advantage.

The butterfly escapes from the pupa-skin after an interval of from 5—6 weeks, a period of unusual length for a diurnal *Lepidopteron*. In more southern lands the pupal repose of butterflies in summer rarely exceeds a fortnight. Hence, the entire metamorphosis is more tedious than in more temperate regions.

By these and other observations, Sandberg shows that one Arctic summer, in latitude  $70^{\circ}$ , does not suffice for the development of many *Lepidoptera*, but that two or more summers are required for the purpose.

If, therefore, more than one summer is needful for the development of *Lepidoptera*, it appears to me even more certain that Humble-bees must

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\* Mr. W. H. Edwards informs us that Mr. David Bruce has taken *Chionobas Taygete* Hub., which is syn. of *Oeneis Bore* Sch., in Colorado, on summits, at high elevation. Mr. Edwards' Catalogue, No. 304, says *Taygete* Hub. = *Bootes* Bd., and Staudinger's Cat. says *Bore* Sch. is the same as these, that is, it is all one species.—ED. C. E.