

be very interesting to ascertain how far this butterfly has penetrated the country. Westwardly, it has not reached Montreal, and it has not been traced south of Point Levi; eastward, it has not been taken at St. Anne's, where a Lepidopterous collector resided during the time of its occurrence here; north-west it appears to have made the greatest inroad, for it has been noticed at a distance of thirty miles in that direction. I am safe in stating that five years have not elapsed since this butterfly was introduced into Lower Canada, and it is now brought before the public as an unprofitable addition to our insect fauna.

*Butterflies* are easily distinguished from the other groups by their knobbed antennæ; in the *sphinxes* and their allies the feelers are thickened in the middle; in the *moths* they are filiform, and often pectinated, like feathers. Lepidoptera have also been divided into three large groups, called Diurnal, Crepuscular and Nocturnal, since butterflies fly in the sunshine alone, most sphinxes in the twilight (many of them fly in the hottest sunshine), and the moths are generally night-flyers—thus showing that the distinctions are somewhat artificial. In collecting them to pin dry, we must remember that the least touch will remove some of the scales from the wings and bodies, thus injuring them for study and spoiling their looks. The collector should have the gauze net, a box lined with cork, to pin his captures into. A piece of sponge, saturated with benzine, and pinned at the bottom of the box, will produce a strong odor, and prevent the specimens from fluttering. When the insect is taken in a bag-net, by a dexterous twist of the handle, which throws the bottom over the mouth, it should be confined with the other hand, with great care, and then pinned through the thorax when in the net. The pin can be drawn through the meshes upon opening the net. The collector can afterwards set his specimens to his own fancy. The catalogue published by the Smithsonian Institution enumerates over 2,000 species.

7. The two-winged flies, the house-fly for example, have the mouth parts formed into a kind of proboscis; the second pair of wings are undeveloped, being reduced to a pair of pedicelled knobs, serving as *balancers* or *poisers*. Their transformations are complete.

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