

to:rs, inform me that they have seen very few butterflies of any species. Intelligent—non-scientific—observers in Nova Scotia furnish me with like information. Moths have also been exceedingly scarce. Indeed, this scarcity is observable in all kinds of insects, with the exception of a few species of Dragon-flies, which have been unusually abundant near St. John.

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On July 18th three examples of *Spilosoma virginica* Fabr. emerged from their cocoons. The larvæ were fed on sorrel. One of the moths (a female) has a very curious process on each side of the thorax in front, near the costa of the fore wings at the base. They are globular in form; of a pale yellowish color, but with a vitreous lustre, and look like another pair of eyes that protrude from the head somewhat, except in color. Their diameter would measure, I should think, about one-half line. On touching the organs with an instrument I found them quite hard, and apparently of a permanent nature. I have raised several others this season of both sexes, but in none of them was there any trace of these processes, as far as I could see. I have never seen upon any insect, nor have I ever seen described any organs that correspond at all with these. If any one would like to examine this specimen, I will forward it to them for that purpose.

Aug. 1st I accidentally made a discovery that thereafter facilitated the capture of many species of moths, and thinking that it might be new to other collectors, I give it for their benefit. As I was returning home from my baited trees I beat a few bushes for moths as usual, when on beating a particular clump of scrub oaks a large number of moths flew out, many of them quite large Noctuids. I saw that there must be an unusual attraction there, but what it was I did not then find out. Many of the moths returned to the bushes again soon after being routed. At the time of discovery there must have been several hundreds in the clump, for I captured about a hundred in from fifteen to twenty minutes. I afterwards obtained a large number of moths there, and found that the greatest attraction seemed to be a sort of gummy juice (probably saccharine) that existed in the new buds that were nearly matured for another season's growth, although they were also found more or less plentifully on the youngest stems and leaves. Although other clumps of scrub oaks were afterwards examined, I found very few in other localities. I obtained from this clump of oaks many species that I had never taken before, and that I found no where else.

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