

dently sown by mischievous persons receiving live specimens through the mails. In the Moths, the wood-boring species may be introduced by accident, but, unless in such cases as the Currant Clear Wing (*Aegeria*), such an introduction would be usually futile for the establishment of the species. Specimens of the Wood Leopard, *Zeuzera Aesculi*, are said thus to have been found about New York, and even the Goat Moth, *Cossus Ligniperda*, is stated to have been so found. Again, in Wood's "Index Entomologicus," are figures of one or two of our Noctuidæ, the originals of which, if authentic, must have been accidentally introduced into England, and disappeared again without leaving progeny behind them. One or two cases have fallen under my notice where deception has evidently been intended, but the naturalist, from his knowledge of the habits of the insect, will quickly detect such frauds. One case of reported identity I regret not to have been able to verify. It is that of the European *Catocala Nupta*, said to have been found on Long Island. Now the genus *Catocala* is peculiar to the Northern Hemisphere, and our species and the European have undoubtedly a common ancestry. But the remarkable fact is that our forms have differentiated widely and multiplied exceedingly, so that we have fresh Groups and a much greater number of species compared with Europe. That, therefore, one form of *Catocala* should have remained constant is, to me, incredible, and I shall prefer to believe that the reported American specimens of *C. Nupta* are the result of recent importation or of deception. We have witnessed the acclimatization of the Chinese Silk Worm, *Philosamia Cynthia*, on the Ailanthus trees in the vicinity of New York and Philadelphia, and, in the case of the Spinners, cocoon-making species, it seems likely that the wholesale transference of such species in the pupal state would result in the permanence of the form in the wild state in the new locality. But the very difficulty which generally attends the introduction of new species into a fresh locality, suggests that most of the species common to America and Europe have simply remained unaltered since prehistoric ages. The pattern of ornamentation has remained constant, while Dr. Speyer has noticed a shading or quality in the colors which renders the specimens still distinguishable by the practised eye, and which is evidently due to the differences in light and humidity. But, as in the case of *Catocala Nupta*, the naturalist will have to take into consideration the whole range of special facts to decide any one case where historic evidence is totally wanting.