

flies. Others were found in Weidemeyer's Catalogue, 1864, and in works of various authors. Any such species which has not been taken within the United States the last twenty years, during which the whole country has been searched by eager collectors, may be set down as a very rare visitor, and good evidence is needed to prove that it was ever found here. A list of such species will, however, be given, for the satisfaction of any person who prefers to consider them as entitled to recognition.

For the same reason, I omit all of Mr. Reakirt's Southern Californian species which have not been seen by collectors since he gave them a habitat. These were obtained from Mr. Lorquin, the younger, who notoriously mixed his Mexican with Californian and even European insects, unlabelled, whence Mr. Reakirt was led into several admitted errors.

It has not been considered necessary to encumber these pages with references to works that are inaccessible to most of the lepidopterists and collectors of the country, and therefore I have given from such works merely enough to accredit the species; but have quoted fully from American authors, or others who have treated especially of American butterflies. Students who desire farther and fuller information can readily find it in Kirby's Catalogue, a most valuable and surprisingly accurate work in its references, and which no one who cares to know of the literature of the science should be without. I have also made references to authors who have treated of the preparatory stages, no matter how briefly, or of the habits of either larva or imago, and have indicated this class of information by a special sign.

In the general arrangement, while adopting the families and sub-families of some of the later systematists, I adhere mainly to the order of Doubleday and his associates in the "Genera of Diurnal Lepidoptera." I have not seen reasons to induce me to follow these systematists spoken of in their radical changes, whereby the Papilionidæ are degraded, founded as they avowedly are on partial characters drawn from the imago, and almost regardless of the preparatory stages.

A great many systems of arrangement have had their rise and fall within the last half century based on one character or other of the imago, and it is safe to say that none will be other than temporary which does not regard the egg, and larva and chrysalis, as well as the butterfly. And it will be a very long time before the knowledge of the Lepidoptera is so complete as to permit of any permanent arrangement.

Certainly I do not believe the Papilionidæ to be the nearest allies