

like external conditions of existence act differently, that temperature, moisture, food, &c., do not influence them alike. We can understand how this great latitude in susceptibility to like conditions may and does in the case of exceptional seasons prove beneficial to the species by preserving the exceptional individuals that display the power to resist the unusual changes.

The next paper was by the same author, on New Insects Injurious to American Agriculture, in which attention was called to several insects hitherto unknown as injurious, which during the present year have proved very destructive to one crop or another. Such hitherto unknown and unreported injury is either caused by—1st, imported species; 2nd, native species previously known but without destructive habit; 3rd, unknown or undescribed species.

Mr. W. H. Edwards then read a paper on certain habits of *Heliconia charitonia*.

Some interesting discussions followed the reading of these papers, after which an informal discussion on Entomological subjects took place, in which many of the members joined. The meeting then adjourned.

On Friday, at 11.30 a. m., the Entomological Sub-section held another session.

The first paper, "On the Length of Life of Butterflies," was read by W. H. Edwards, followed by one on the Life Duration of the Heterocera, by J. A. Lintner, both of which will appear in the pages of the ENTOMOLOGIST.

A few remarks were made by C. V. Riley on his own extended observations on the duration of the lives of both butterflies and moths, indicating that they were as a rule of very short duration.

Cyrus Thomas stated that according to his observation the Army Worm, as a caterpillar, a chrysalis and a moth, existed in all seventy-seven days. Some observers had, however, made it seventy-six, others seventy-nine days. He contended that in confinement, in a proper temperature and with ample food, the Army Worm passed through its metamorphosis more quickly than in natural conditions.

B. P. Mann disagreed with Mr. Thomas on this latter; so also did C. V. Riley, it being contrary to their experience.

J. A. Lintner, State Entomologist of New York, then read a paper on "A Remarkable Invasion of Northern New York by a Pyralid Insect."

He said that about the middle of May, of the present year, a serious