

*Whitneyi* and *residua*. We have seen, that the more correct determination of the moths alone is a matter of scientific experience, inborn feeling, in short of tact which comes alike from long work and genius for the study. The check to all such determinations of the perfect insects is breeding from the egg.

In the North American fauna, we also have the European genus *Scopelosoma* ; in Europe with one constant form, in North America with several closely allied. How thankful I am, that Mr. Thaxter has bred our closely allied species, so that no opinion formed from the imagines alone is now worth having or recording.

As the result of our comparison, we see the fact that species tend more to vary, to wander off into new forms in North America ; whereas, in Europe, they have a greater setness, or fixity in their appearance. It would seem as if the faunal changes in America had been greater, influenced by physical causes, the chain of longitudinal mountains, the land connection of the tropics, the course of the winds of the gulf stream, all the phenomena of climate and temperature. The probability is, that the European species are nearer the old circumpolar pre-glacial forms ; that in most cases the North American forms have made the variation, the step in a new direction.

Species by species, genus by genus, must these comparisons be made, so that we may unroll the probable past of our butterflies and moths. The life-histories must be known and compared. Work like that done by Mr. W. H. Edwards, Mr. Thaxter, Prof. French, Mr. Beutenmüller and others must be encouraged. Some papers by Mr. Moffat, on the question of species and variety naming, recommended themselves to me greatly. At the risk of repeating myself, I maintain that, as an entomologist, we are here to discriminate, not to lump ; our work is to talk about and illustrate the differences we find in insects.

An intelligent resolving of the study into its different phases is much needed. While with patience, the fine work of discriminating the forms is being carried on, the labour of comparisons, for the purpose of aiding the solution of wider questions, should not be neglected. There is enough to do, and I am glad to see, as the years go by and fresh workers come into our field, that there will be enough to do it. It is the pursuit of truth that is always new and interesting.