

large, heavy caterpillars are found hanging on the under-side of leaves and twigs, but on account of their green colour they are rather difficult to detect.

The *Cecropia* Emperor Moth, the subject of this article, is the largest and one of the most beautiful insects found in North America. When the wings have been spread this magnificent moth measures from five to seven inches across. The figure* given herewith, which has been reduced in size, shows the moth which is doubtless known to many of our readers. The four wings are of a rich brown and all are crossed with conspicuous bands. The band on each front wing is dull red, more or less edged within with white, while that on each hind wing is a brighter red, almost crimson in some specimens, edged distinctly inside with white. In the figure, which is from a photograph, only the white portions, of course, of these transverse bands show. The front wings are dusted with gray towards and along the upper margin, and through that portion of each wing beyond the transverse band. Near the centre of the wing, and also towards the base, reddish patches are present in most specimens. All the wings have, near the middle, a large nearly kidney-shaped mark which is white shaded more or less with red, and margined with black. The eye-like spot towards the tip of each front wing is black with a bluish white crescent, and the curved band near the base is white and black. The outer edges of all the wings are paler, and there is present on each front wing a wavy black line which on each hind wing is replaced by a double band of the same colour. The upper side of the body is dull red, as are also the legs. Just behind the head there is a wide white band. The abdomen in most specimens is reddish-brown, the cross bands of white being very conspicuous. Both sexes are similar in appearance, the female only differing from the male in the larger abdomen and much smaller antennæ, or feelers.

It is often difficult to understand an author's reason for selecting the name by which a species is to be known, and much discussion among naturalists has taken place regarding Linnæus's application of the name of the ancient city of Athens, to this moth. The late Dr. Asa Fitch in his third report on the Noxious and

*From Fourth Annual Report of the Entomologist of the State Experiment Station of the University of Minnesota, kindly loaned by Prof F. L. Washburn.