## The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. IX.

LONDON, ONT., NOVEMBER, 1877.

No. 11

## PIERIS VERNALIS A VARIETY OF PIERIS PROTODICE.

BY THOS. E. BEAN, GALENA, ILLINOIS.

Experiments and observations during 1874-5, supplemented by comparison of a large suite of specimens, seemed to invalidate the specific separation of rernalis. Submitting the facts to Mr. W. H. Edwards, he confirmed my opinion, and in the recently issued "Catalogue of the Diurnal Lepidoptera of America North of Mexico," he has placed "vernalis" as a variety of P. protodice.

The basis for my conclusion is briefly as below:

## I. A BROOD FROM PROTODICE.

Q taken August 15th, 1874. A protodice of normal summer form; being of large size, with ample and dark markings on upper surface of wings and gray scales at base of primaries above, and showing yellowish and rather meagre shading beneath secondaries. This deposited eggs 21st August, which produced larve on 25th. Resulting imagines, seven, Sept. 15th. Two of these were not noticeably variant from usual protodice; the remaining five were grades between protodice and vernalis, one female and four males, the female and three males approximated protodice in varying degrees, and one male was nearer vernalis than protodice in size and marking.

## 2. A SERIES FROM COLLECTED LARVÆ.

In 1874, late in September and early in October, a large number of the caterpillars in various sizes were taken from naturalized mustard.

These were brought to the pupa stage with very slight loss, during October and early in November.

No parasites were observed in any stage.