

XIV.—*Descriptions of some New Species and Varieties of Canadian Butterflies.*

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(Read May 19, 1903.)

I submit herewith descriptions of 3 species and 3 varieties of Canadian diurnal lepidoptera, specimens of which have been in my collection for many years, and of which a continued study convinces me that it is wise to characterize them for the benefit of other students of Canadian butterflies. It is possible that some of these may be only local races, but they are so constant that I believe them to be well worthy of recognition. In describing these forms, I have endeavoured to compare them with their nearest allies, as a description, even when accompanied by a plate, is far more intelligible when a new form can be compared with a well known standard. My thanks are due to Dr. Henry Skinner, of Philadelphia, who very kindly undertook the arrangement and preparation of the specimens illustrated on the plate given herewith, and also from his own cabinet provided some specimens which were better for illustration than the actual types used in the descriptions. I have also to express my gratitude to the American Museum of Natural History for a beautiful painting of *Thecla henthii* which was specially made for the purpose and used for the accompanying illustration, on account of two of the wings in the type specimen being imperfect. It is well here to mention that this painting is, in my opinion, almost as perfect as a drawing can be and represents exactly the appearance of the type in every mark and spot as well as in colour and shape. Mr. Wm. Bentenmuller very kindly undertook personally the supervision of this painting.

The names used in this paper are those in the recognized check lists of diurnal lepidoptera now used by American entomologists, viz.: the "List of Lepidoptera of North America," by Dr. J. B. Smith, 1891, and "A Synonymic Catalogue of the North American Heterocera," by Dr. Henry Skinner, 1898. Up to the present time the names given by Dr. S. H. Scott in his magnificent work "The Butterflies of the Eastern United States and Canada," have not been adopted by collectors in labelling their collections. These names, however, are, I believe, for the most part well founded, and it is merely a matter of time before they will be generally accepted.