

ON A RARE CANADIAN BUTTERFLY.

Papilio cresphontes Cram.

By WILLIAM SAUNDERS, LONDON, ONT.

This handsome swallow-tail butterfly formerly known as *Papilio thoas* is essentially a Southern insect, quite common throughout the Southern States, where it feeds in the larval condition upon the foliage of the orange and lemon trees. When first discovered it was thought to be restricted to the South, but more thorough investigation has shown that it is much more widely distributed. It has been found in Michigan, Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, Connecticut, and also in several localities in the western part of Ontario, particularly in the south-western portion of the County of Lambton, and in the neighbourhood of Amherstburg, Co. Essex, it has also been taken at Hamilton and Dundas, and has been seen on the wing at St. Thomas. It occurs throughout the month of June and also in August.

This is a very beautiful insect. The accompanying cut figure 38, in which it is very faithfully delineated was drawn and engraved by Mr. Worthington G. Smith, of London, England, from a fine specimen captured by Mr. J. M. Denton, near Amherstburg.

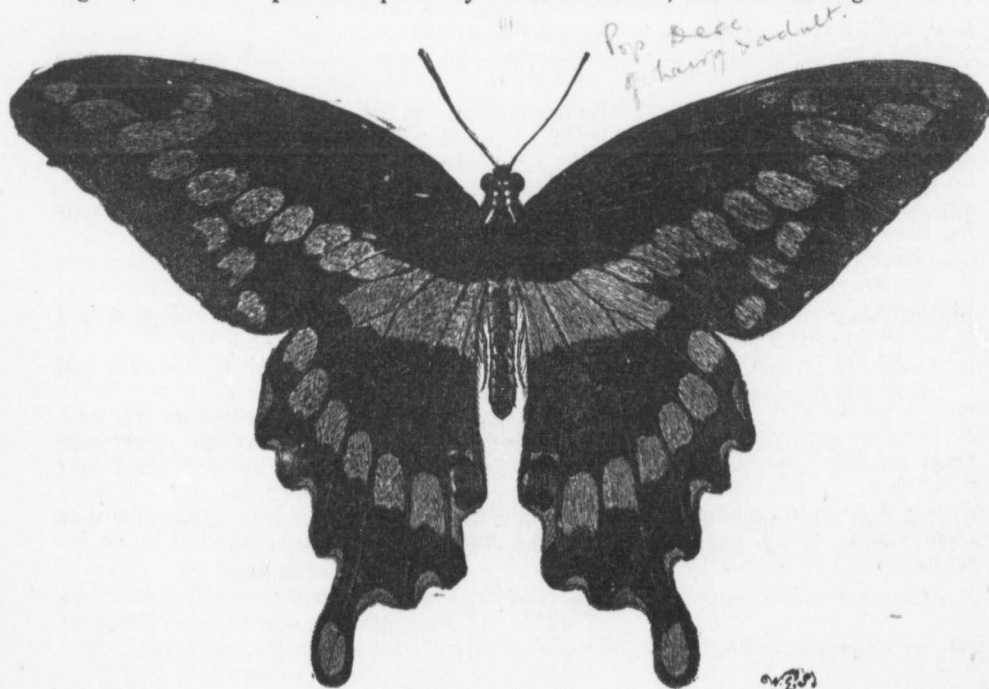


Fig. 38.

The wings are of a deep black colour, crossed by a band of yellow spots extending from tip to tip of the fore wings and covering also the front margin of the hind wings. The third spot from the tip is oblong, sometimes notched by encroachment of the ground colour, and surmounted by two or three smaller spots; there is also a row of three or four spots below the band, extending to the inner angle. The hind wings are also furnished with a row of six or seven yellow spots, while the anal angle has a reddish crescent with a patch powdered with blue atoms above it. The edges of these wings are notched, and more or less

fringed with yellow with yellow. W

This stately it has alighted a proached, it may

Last Septen of this beautiful den, feeding on 2 but cultivated in looking creature. ginning from the is a large brown I of the body there part of the sides, middle of that ba by another large body, between th colour. The und

This curious larvæ closely reser of their growth; the birds. When head, which is also

For a few day rapidly, but the s elosed in a gauze l although they ate died, until only th up and went into ally the remainder ing them they wer

The chrysalis

The skill shown eggs is very wonde to the Rutacæ or other; yet this butt family, so also does country are the Noi *Z. Carolinianum*; sweet and bitter or stated feeds on the Prickly Ash, while *Dictamnus* it becom yet been found on th