

There are many species of fragile butterflies and insects of all kinds, which are found only on the bleak and wind-swept summits of high mountains. These are naturally, on account of their rarity in collections, a great attraction to entomologists whenever opportunities occur of seeking for them in their native haunts.

In response to the President's invitation to speak for a few minutes this evening on "a collecting experience of the past summer," I am going to tell you of a short expedition made on the 4th of August last in company with my friend Dr. Henry Skinner, of Philadelphia, the well known authority on many branches of entomology and the Editor of Entomological News. The chief objects of our search were some species of mountain butterflies discovered by Mr. T. E. Bean whose excellent work on the butterflies of the Canadian Rockies has made Laggan, the place where he lived for some years, a classic ground for entomologists. We decided to stop at this Mecca and endeavor to secure among others, specimens of *Argynnis alberta*, Edw., and *Encis beanii*, both discovered for the first time by Mr. Bean in this locality. The chief object of our search, however, was the beautiful and most interesting *Argynnis astarte*, Dbl.-Hew., which has a very interesting history. This butterfly had been described in 1848 from a specimen brought back to England by a collector sent out by Lord Derby. Owing to the small appreciation of the value of exact localities in those days and even to-day with some of the entomologists in Europe who deal with all-world collections, the inaccurate and indefinite locality given on this specimen was "Jamaica," which was one of the points of call of the collector in proceeding to or from North America. In 1888 Mr. Bean who was then living in the Rocky Mountains, re-discovered the species which had been a mystery to all entomologists from the time the single specimen was taken back to Europe. As Mr. H. J. Elwes, one of the most astute of the English lepidopterists, wrote to me just about that time, it seemed almost impossible that a species with the general appearance of *A. astarte* could be a tropical insect, and he felt sure that this insect would prove to be an arctic or high alpine form, which would be found in the Rocky Mountains if anyone would go and search for it. He even offered to subscribe £200 towards such an expedition. Just about this time, by a curious co-incidence, Mr. Bean sent specimens of the butterfly, together with several other new species, to Mr. W. H. Edwards of Coalburgh, W. Va., for identification, and Mr. Edwards had decided to name it *A. Victoria* after our late beloved Queen, Victoria the Good. This fine