

Up to the 16th of August I did not recognise the species of these caterpillars, though I fancied they belonged to the *Saturniadae*, but on my return on the 28th, from the meeting of the American Association at Salem, I found rather to my surprise, that they had grown to be about two and a half inches long, and were of a delicate yellowish-green colour with an abbreviated reddish lateral band. They had proved to be the very familiar larvæ of what is commonly known as the Io Emperor-moth of Harris (*Hyperchiria varia*, Walk.) One of them began to form his cocoon on the 7th of September, the rest are still feeding, and a prodigious quantity they eat. I have reared these larvæ before, though never from their infancy, and found them to feed on the leaves of Willow and Elm. Dr. Harris (Ius. Mass., p. 393), states that they "live on the balsam poplar and the elm, and, according to Mr. Abbot, on the dogwood or cornel and the sassafras; they feed well also on the leaves of clover and Indian corn." In his 'Entomological Correspondence,' p. 295, he states that a brood of these larvæ fed on *Robinia viscosa*. Dr. Fitch (4th Report, p. 81), gives the cherry as the food plant, and also (5th Report, p. 52), the locust. Mrs H. C. Freeman (Amer. Ent. i. 39), states that she found it feeding on the hop vine. It thus appears that they are by no means particular as to their diet. The imago usually appears between the 1st and 20th of June; those I bred last year and kept in the house came out in April.—C. J. S. B.

NOTES ON A FEW BEETLES.—Perhaps it may interest some of the readers of the ENTOMOLOGIST to mention that that rare beetle, *Necrophilus subterraneus*, Fab., may be found during the last of September and in the early part of October in decomposing fungus, particularly the "toadstool" species growing in clusters on decaying logs. My earliest specimen was taken on the 27th of September, the latest on October 13th. It is probably well known to all who have taken *Haplochile pygmaea*, Dej., that it emits when handled a most unpleasant and powerful odor, exceeding that of *Chrysopa*, and requiring repeated applications of soap and water to remove it from the fingers - *Trichodesma (Anobium) gibbosum*, Say; of this species I dug three specimens out of a dead maple tree in Oxford, January, 1867, and early in July of the present year I obtained a number by beating the limbs of trees. J. PETTIT, Grimsby, Ontario.

SCUDDER'S "BUTTERFLIES OF NEW ENGLAND."—I am very desirous of seeing collections of Insects from every part of New England, New York, New Jersey and the Dominion of Canada, and repeat the promise made in the spring, of naming any collection of butterflies from these districts sent by express to the address below, early in October. I beg those who can do so to send not one specimen only of a species, but as many as possible, especially among the Hesperidæ and the genera *Lycæna*, *Thecla*, *Limenitis*, *Argynnis*, *Militæa* and *Grapta*, where some species have for a long time been confounded. The insects