

The most interesting observation on the trip, however, was that of three individuals of *Oeneis semidea* on the mountain summit. There is indeed a possibility of error here, for no one of them was taken, though two were near enough to warrant a dash with the net. They appeared to be unusually dark, but they had every other appearance of this butterfly, including size and their manner of flight, when flying tolerably high on a not windy day. As the caterpillars have been taken fully grown and wandering in September, it is altogether probable that they pass the winter (as has always been supposed) in chrysalis; and if so, there seems to be no reason why they may not emerge as early as this; but as the butterfly has never before been found on the wing earlier than July,\* and is never known to be abundant before the second week in that month, and disappears by the middle of August, it would seem not impossible and even probable that the butterfly is double-brooded, at least in part. This certainly seems strange at such an inclement altitude, especially as the European *Oeneis aello* (which winters, at least sometimes, like many other Satyrids, as a juvenile caterpillar) is believed to take two years to reach maturity.

The only other butterflies seen above the timber were *Eurymus philodice*, twice near the summit and once in Tuckerman's Ravine; and *Lycaena americana*, seen once a mile or two down from the summit. A single *Cyaniris pseudargiolus lucia* was seen near the edge of the forest just before entering Tuckerman's Ravine.

It may be added that the snow patches about the summit of Mt. Washington, which were not very extensive—their size, as seen from the valley, diminishing perceptibly in the few days of our visit—were peppered with minute insects, largely made up of a few species; the most abundant were an Aphis, two or three flies no larger than Aphides, some other minute Homoptera, one or two minute Hymenoptera and equally small Coleoptera. Among larger forms were a species of the heteropterous genus *Acanthosoma*, according to Mr. Uhler, probably *A. nebulosa*, which was the most common of all, and *Bibio femoratus* Wied. (determined by Dr. Williston); every pool of melted snow contained three or four of the latter, while the former fairly swarmed everywhere.

As to the valley butterflies, the advanced season was as apparent with

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\* Harris, however, on the authority of Oakes, gives June as one of the months of its flight.