

If, in consideration of the condition of the moths when captured, the probable different time of oviposition and more or less favorable exposure of eggs, we assume that the individuals of a species continue to emerge from the pupa during one-third of the above period, there will remain, as the approximate life duration of these Noctuidæ, a *period of three weeks*.

Mr. Wm. L. Devereaux, of Clyde, N. Y., in giving the results of his collections of Noctuidæ at sugar for two years,* states that "most of the species remain for about a month." From other data which I have consulted, I think that we shall not be far from the truth if we adopt as the life-period of the larger portion of the Noctuidæ a term of three weeks.

As might be expected in so heterogeneous a family as the Noctuidæ—differing so greatly in general character, coming forth at such different seasons of the year, and varying in the number of the broods,—the life-histories of the several groups vary to the extent of preventing generalization and necessitating specific observations. For example, we find that the genera *Xylina*, *Homoptera* and *Catocala* have their periods of apparition much extended beyond the species above noticed. In the paper by myself, above referred to (p. 51), we find that *Xylina petulca*, *X. disposita* and *X. Bethunei* were observed for a period extending over forty-one, forty-seven and fifty-one days respectively, with a possible prolongation of the lives of some of the later individuals through hibernation and reappearance in the following spring, of six additional months. Seven species of *Catocala* give an average duration of forty-five days, and from Mr. Devereaux's observations, nine species of *Catocala* give an average period of fifty-seven days. These last may have shown a prolonged period from their extending over two years—one of which, from a more favorable season, may have included earlier dates of first appearance. It is proper to state that the above species were selected from the lists, as having been observed for the greatest length of time; the larger number gave considerably shorter terms of apparition.

In concluding these brief notes, which are quite unsatisfactory to the writer, and offered only in compliance with request, I would beg leave to suggest that good service may be rendered to Entomology by the collation from published records, and incorporation in our published lists of insects, hereafter, of the several dates of their collection or observation throughout the entire time of their appearance. The want of such data

* *Canadian Entomologist*, vol. xi., pp. 105-109, 1879.