

same way as *Nokomis* is the form (i. e. of *Cybele*) of the dry central plateau of the continent." He had already said that *Cybele* and *Aphrodite*, and several others, were all one species, and now gets into the same corral *Leto*, *Nokomis* and *Nitocris*, which last, he says, is nothing but a form of *Nokomis*. And he quotes the wise remarks of his friend and counsellor, Strecker, with approval: "I have always contended that *Nokomis* was a pale abnormal form of *Cybele*, of which we have so many other instances in other species, (I should like to see a statement of these other instances!) from the *dry salt regions* of Utah and Arizona," p. 568. Pity that Mr. Darwin had not lighted on that explanation of the origin of species! The dry salt air changes the form of a species, changes its coloration throughout, changes the form of the silver spots, enlarges or decreases their number, lines the spots with heavy bars of black on both anterior and posterior sides. Thus a *Nokomis* is manufactured out of a *Cybele*! *Leto* is as unlike *Cybele* in shape, in the silver spots, their size and number, and in the colour of both sexes, as it is unlike *Zerene*. *Nokomis* female, on the upper side, is of the same pattern as female *Diana*, the spots being yellow, which in *Diana* are blue. *Leto* female, in place of the extra-discal oblong spots on hind wings, seen in the other two species, has a solid yellow band. To me it seems absurd to the last degree to be talking about the identity or even the nearness of the three species to each other. I happen to have bred *Leto* from egg to imago, and the larva has striking differences from that of *Cybele*. And how any one can look at the plates of *Nokomis* and *Nitocris*, and call them forms of one species, is past my understanding.

*A. Semiramis* "to my eye is nothing more than a form of *Coronis*, in which the black markings of the upper side have become paler and more reduced, as might be expected from the arid character of the country where it is found. It has been taken by Mr. Wright in the mountains separating the San Bernardino Valley from the Mohave Desert, and was not out when I visited these mountains in May, 1838." Why might it have been expected? That strikes me as on a par with the reason given for transformation of species in Utah, the dry salt air; and in Oregon, the damp climate. As it happens, the region where *Semiramis* is found is not on the desert side of the mountains, and Mr. Wright, in answer to my inquiry, denies the arid character, and says that no mountains are dry