

The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. XIX.

LONDON, JUNE, 1887.

No. 6

THE EARLIEST BUTTERFLIES AT THE WHITE MOUNTAINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

BY SAMUEL H. SCUDDER, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

A few years ago a visit was made to the Glen, in the White Mts. of New Hampshire, in the early spring, just as the first tender leafage was appearing (June 2-5), and a report of the thirteen butterflies then found was published in *Psyche*, 1874, vol. 1, p. 13-14, 18-19. Wishing to secure eggs from some of the wintering butterflies abundant in that place, which I then failed to secure from being too early, another visit was made last spring to the same place, and at the same date (June 3-7), as the season was evidently sufficiently advanced to make it practically at least a week later; and so it proved, the vegetation at the Half-way House, at the upper limit of forest growth on the Mt. Washington carriage road, being this spring exactly at the stage at which I found it in the valleys at the previous visit, the difference in elevation being over fifteen hundred feet. The sky was equally sunny in both cases.

The collecting ground was the same as previously, excepting that on this occasion there was superadded an ascent of Mt. Washington by Tuckerman's Ravine, with a descent by the carriage road; and also a walk southwardly from the Glen to North Conway.

This last walk showed a very distinct change in the fauna from the considerable clearing at the Glen to the open country to the south (a thousand feet lower), after the eight miles of unbroken forest, ending at Emery's, was passed. *Pamphila sassacus* at once appeared in considerable numbers; *Brenthis myrina*, *Phyciodes tharos* and *Atrytone hobomok* were far more common—all indicating an earlier appearance at this altitude, since they are common enough at the Glen in their season; while only two or three *Cyaniris pseudargiolus* were seen, in place of the abundance farther north, and not a single *Amblyscirtes samoset*, which had been seen sparingly at the Glen for several days.