

in number to six. On lifting, I found one of them rattling and shaking with great vigor; I returned it to the box and waited three days, when nothing appearing, I broke it open and a fully developed fly walked out in a very feeble condition. Its length was 1 inch, expanse $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Head, thorax and legs black, antennæ and feet yellow; abdomen brown; a yellow spot between thorax and abdomen; wings light smoky brown.

J. A. MOFFAT.

Hamilton, June 26th, 1877.

MELITAEA PHAETON.

I have caught this summer over fifty specimens of *Melitæa phaeton*; they have been extremely common here. I saw a gentleman recently from Ottawa who told me that he could have caught them by the hundred in that neighborhood, they were so very abundant.

GEO. W. PEARSON, JR., Montreal.

HOW TO DESTROY CABINET PESTS.

There is nothing more annoying to the experienced, or more discouraging to the young collector, than to have his specimens destroyed by mites, by the *Anthrenus*, or by the larva of *Dermestes*. Against the ravages of these enemies there is no security. Paste and paper fail to exclude them; camphor is only a partial protector, and the only safeguard of our cabinets is constant vigilance, and the instant destruction of the offenders when observed.

For this purpose many methods have been suggested—saturation with turpentine, immersion in alcohol or benzine, exposure to a heat of 210 degrees in a drying closet or oven, &c.; but most of these ways are apt to injure, or even destroy the specimens, while the last is often ineffective. Having, however, found a certain and rapid method of dealing with these intruders, I desire, through your pages, to make it known to my brother naturalists.

Some two years ago, I had a magnificent female *Platysamia* (*Saturnia*) *cecropia*, measuring $6\frac{7}{8}$ inches across the wings when set out, which came out of a chrysalis in my breeding box. I succeeded in killing and stretching it without damage, and when dry, transferred it to my interim box, which hung against the wall. In about a fortnight I was annoyed to