

poses claimed. They may be of aid in case of families and genera ; but are unreliable, and therefore valueless in case of species.

We now come to the list of species, p. 460. I shall speak only of the North American species, for I have no acquaintance with others, except such as specimens of the butterflies in my collection afford, and in several cases I have never seen the species. Under *Nevadensis*, Felder, are ranged *Gigas*, Butler, *Californica*, Bdl., and *Iduna*, Edw. "After comparing very numerous specimens in my own and other collections, from California, Oregon, Washington and Vancouver Island, of which the last was sent me by Mr. Fletcher as *Gigas*, I cannot allow that the differences relied on by Mr. W. H. Edwards between these *Californica* and *Iduna* are of any weight, and I have no hesitation in uniting these four supposed forms. The habitat of THIS SPECIES is peculiar. I have TAKEN IT in Oregon, at about 2,000 feet, flying in stony or rocky pine woods, where there was not much undergrowth. It occurs as high as 7,000 feet, on Mt. Hood, in the same State, according to Morrison, and is common in the pine forests of Mendocino County, California." That is as good a sample of the illumination of this author as I could select. He has become possessed of, or has seen numerous specimens of THIS species, (one, or at most a trifling number, was sent him as *Gigas*), and undertakes to decide off-hand that all these forms are one species, and that IT flies in Vancouver Island, Mendocino and Oregon. Mr. W. G. Wright has taken *Gigas* on Vancouver Island two seasons ; has taken *Iduna* at Mendocino two, if not three, seasons ; and *Californica* in Washington. He is positive that they are three distinct species, from their habits of flight, and his observations on their behaviour in natural state ; and from the character of the regions they constantly inhabit. Mr. Fletcher, who has taken *Gigas* in Vancouver, has written me since he has seen this Revision :—"I don't agree with him that *Nevadensis* is the same as *Californica* and *Gigas* at all. All three are to my mind quite distinct, in the males at any rate."

I, myself, have never seen one of these species alive, but I have bred two of them from egg to adult larva, namely, *Iduna* and *Californica*, in both cases the larvæ reaching the adult stage the same season, but dying before pupation ; and twice I have reared larvæ of *Gigas* to the second moult, when they all hibernated. In fact, I have, or ought to have, larvæ of *Gigas* alive to-day. And from these stages, and the behaviour of the larvæ, I am certain there are three species. As Mr. Elwes speaks of the "differ-