

length of flight on this occasion to the absence of females, for it would appear they only fly long enough to find and select a partner, and mating takes place immediately. The next night an early start was made to search the bush before dark, our object being to try and find them before it was time for them to fly. This was successful also, for both imagoes and pupæ shells were secured, the former on the stems of the Willow, and the fresh pupæ shells on top of the ground. On this occasion, as on the following night, the flight was very short, and females were plentiful; 10 specimens were taken on the 18th, and on the 19th 18 specimens of *thule* and a fine specimen of *Sthenopsis quadriguttatus* were added. A careful search of the bushes after dark gave us four pairs in copulation. This was something new to us also, and was taken advantage of the following night with good results, moths being secured before it was time for them to fly. July 19th and 21st were unfavourable for collecting, owing to wet weather. July 20th, however, eight specimens were taken, and on the 22nd four more were added, and this proved to be the last, for although the search was kept up, none were seen after that date. On that evening a number of Sphingidæ were seen at the Willow, and three or four specimens were taken. We were about to give up the pursuit on account of darkness, when we saw something hovering about the top of the bush, gradually working its way to the other side. By a quick turn and swing of the net my son managed to land it, and to our surprise it was a female *thule*. We had never seen one fly like this before. The dates of flight herein mentioned are somewhat late, but I attribute this to the unusually late spring and cool summer, and would be inclined to say that under anything like normal conditions their appearance would be from about July 8th to the 20th. The time of flight each night is on an average about fifteen minutes, and none were seen on the wing before 8 p.m., and not later than 8.30 p.m., with the exception of the specimen we have referred to taken at light.

Our efforts were well rewarded, for in all 75 specimens were taken, and a little information gained as to the habits of *Sthenopsis thule*.

NOTE.—It was the unanimous opinion of those present at the meeting when this paper was read that such wholesale captures of this rare moth were most strongly to be deprecated. Collectors should be satisfied with a few specimens annually, and not run the risk of exterminating a most interesting species, which is only known to frequent a few very limited localities.—ED. C. E.