

emphatically differentiated for sex ; while in the Laggan occurrence, as also in *Ossianus* of Europe, the sexes differ but slightly in appearance.

*Ossianus* flies at Laggan during July, or in forward seasons makes its appearance the last week of June. My earliest date for the male is June 22 (in 1888, an early season). It is found at altitudes from 4,900 to 5,600 feet, usually in marshy places. It is not common anywhere in the district, but occurs more freely than elsewhere in two subalpine bogs about a mile south of Laggan, at 5,400 and 5,500 feet. I have taken the female at Stephen, B. C., (5,290 feet), and the male at Emerald Lake (5,600 feet). At Emerald Lake occurred also the single instance of formal *Triclaris* previously mentioned.

### A METHOD OF SECURING MOTHS' EGGS.

BY JOHN B. LEMBERT, YO SEMITE, CAL.

A practical way of procuring moths' eggs came under my observation last season and the season before, through an *Arctia ornata* ♀ that I sent to Mr. Dyar while he was in Portland, Oregon.

When I take an *Arctia ornata* ♀, and she is ready to lay eggs, the moment she shows signs of being stupefied in the Cyanide bottle I take her out, close the wings over her back, and place her in a paper envelope ; as soon as she revives, she will commence to scratch the paper with her legs ; I then shake the envelope, and if she has given up some eggs, I take them out, give her another dose of Cyanide fumes, and when she revives a second time I have found as many as 125 eggs in the paper. After she has given up this quantity the ♀ usually dies, even when left to her own ways and means, and I have found them dead as perfect as when they had just issued and were alive.

*Euchaetes sciurus*, *Arctia rufula* and *Spilosoma vestalis* will give up eggs in this way also, and die like *Ornata*.

A *Lepisesia Clarkia* ♀ has given up an egg in the Cyanide bottle, but as it is so easily killed by the Cyanide fumes, I never tried to get eggs from it in that manner.

Of butterflies, the *Colias Behrii* ♀'s have given up one and two eggs at a time in this way. The method can no doubt be improved on, and, by careful manipulation, the eggs of a great number of butterflies can be obtained in a short time by those intending to rear larvæ, and where the food-plant is known it will make work so much easier for the entomologist.

I my remark, also, that in a tube the eggs of *Spilosoma vestalis*, without the aid of any plant moisture, take about three weeks to hatch, as do also those of *Arctia ornata*, if not longer.