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# The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. 1.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 15, 1868.

No. 3.

## NOTES ON CANADIAN LEPIDOPTERA.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Continued from page 11.)

17. *CRESSONIA JUGLANDIS*, Smith.—This well-known insect has been taken as the type of a new genus, worthily dedicated to Mr. E. T. Cresson, Philadelphia, by Messrs. Grote & Robinson, (Pro. E. S. Phil. v. 186). Its structural differences from the other species of *Smerinthus* appear to fully warrant its separation from them.

18. *MACROSILA QUINQUEMACULATA*, Haw.—The transference of this and several other American species to Boisduval's genus from that of *Sphinx* was made by Walker (C. B. M. viii. 198), and has since been concurred in by Clemens and Grote.

19. *DAREMMA UNDULOSA*, Walk.—This species has given rise to an extraordinary amount of confusion and difficulty. Mr. Walker himself has stated (*vide* Pro. E. S. Phil. v. 189), that "this species is a mistake; it has been newly identified as a dwarfed and slightly aberrant specimen of *Sphinx brontes*." The specimens, however, from which he described his *M. brontes*, Drury, "differ much from Drury's figure, and may be a distinct species" (C. B. M. viii. 199); they have since proved to be Dr. Clemens' *Ceratonia repentinus*, which insect Grote & Rob. consider structurally distinct from the other species of *Ceratonia*. The question now is, what name is this unfortunate insect to bear? The last named authors (Trans. E. S. ii. 76) go back to *Daremma undulosa*; with all due deference we should say *D. repentinus* would be the more just designation, being Walker's genus and Clemens' species.

20. *CERATOMIA AMYNTOR*, Hübn.—This specific name appears to have the priority over Harris' *C. quadricornis*.

21. *SPHYNX EREMITUS*, Hübn.—This is the *S. sordida* of Harris; the former name has the priority.

22. *SPHYNX CHERSIS*, Hübn.—The *S. cinerea* of Harris.

23. *ELLEMA HARRISII*, Clemens.—This is the *Sphinx coniferarum* of Harris, who erroneously considered it to be Smith's species. We have a male specimen from London, Ont., and a female from Weston, Ont.

24. *LAPARA BOMBYCOIDES*, Walk.—This insect, which is very briefly described by Mr. Walker (C. B. M. viii, 233), and noticed as having been taken in Canada, is not mentioned by either Clemens or Grote; as the typical specimen is in a private collection it will be difficult to determine it or ascertain its specific value.

25. *TROCHILIMUM CAUDATUM*, Harris.—This singular and beautiful insect we captured in our garden at Credit last summer; we have never seen but one specimen.

26. *THYRIS VITRINA*, Bois.—This name is to be omitted from our List No. 2; it was inserted on the authority of Mr. Walker (C. B. M. viii, 73), but Grote & Rob. (Trans. Am. Ent. Soc. ii, 75) have shown that it is an erroneous determination of *T. maculata*, Harris.

We now proceed to the Bombycidae, in which we adopt the order and revised nomenclature put forth by Dr. A. S. Packard, jun., in his valuable synopsis of this family (Pro. Ent. Soc. Phil. iii, 97-130, and 331-396).

27. *GNOPHRIA VITTATA*, Harris.—A synonym of *Hypoprepia fucosa*, Hubn (*Lithosia miniata*, Kirby), and therefore to be omitted from the list; the great difference in color between the two varieties led us to think for some time with Harris, Clemens and Fitch, that there were two species.

28. *EUPHANESSA MENDICA*, Walk.—This species, which was included by Walker and others in the genus *Nudaria*, has been erected into a new genus, by Dr. Packard (P. E. S. Phil. iii, 102) upon satisfactory grounds.

29. *CROCOTA RUBICUNDARIA*, Hubn.—Grote & Rob. state (Trans. E. S. ii, 71) that the specimens referred by Walker to this species, are varieties of his *C. ferruginosa*; this statement is corroborated by Dr. Packard's account of the extreme variableness of the latter species (P. E. S. Phil. iii, 104). The name must therefore be omitted from our list until Hubner's species is satisfactorily shown to have been taken in Canada.

30. *UTETHEISA BELLA*, Hubn.—This lovely little moth which was formerly known by the hard-to-be-pronounced name of *Deiopeia bella*, is now referred to Hubner's not much more euphonious name, his genus having the priority over Westwood's.

31. *CALLIUMORPHA CLYMENE*, Esper.—In our list as a *Hypercompa*, which, it appears, was not intended by Hubner as the name of a genus, but of a group of genera.

(To be continued).

## A VISIT TO AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO.

BY E. B. REED, LONDON, ONT.

Being recently on a visit to this pretty little frontier town, I devoted a few hours to my friends the resident Coleoptera and Lepidoptera, and well indeed were my labours rewarded, as the sequel will show. The season was rather advanced for Lepidoptera, but there must have been an enormous supply of their larvæ, for I noticed the fatal results of their "grubbing" powers on many of the surrounding trees; oaks, maples, hickory and walnut in particular, were filled with larvæ of *Dryocampa senatoria*, *D. stigma*, *D. rubicunda*, *Halesidota coryæ*, *H. tessellaris*, and a variety of species unknown to me by name, though we have taken several similar ones near London, but have failed to rear them.

Hearing that a lady in the town had a few specimens, I obtained an introduction from a mutual friend, and soon was busy at work upon the odds and ends of a most miscellaneous collection. Imagine my delight upon recognizing that magnificent insect, *Papilio thoas*! I was told that it was quite common there, and was made the lucky possessor of a fine specimen captured the week before, and I hope next season to procure a good supply of this rare insect. I also saw a very handsome Sphinx, *Chærocampa tersa*, caught on the vines in a neighboring garden, and a splendid specimen of *Catocala cara*, both of which species I am inclined to think are hitherto unrecorded as taken in Canada. From this collection I obtained a specimen of those rather uncommon beetles *Xyloryctes satyrus* and *Saperda cretata*, captured at Paris, Ont.; I also took several moths, new to me, and shall endeavor shortly to procure their names. I do not know whether other localities were visited in the same way, but Amherstburg seemed literally to swarm with *Danais archippus*, reminding me of a similar occurrence in Toronto about seven years ago. From all appearances a rich harvest might be reaped by an energetic collector in this hitherto ungleaned field.

The following were obtained by me:—Lepidoptera—*P. asterias*, *P. turnus*, *P. oleracea*, *P. protodice*, *C. philodice*, *D. archippus*, *V. milberti*, *V. progne*, *L. disippus*, *A. cybele*, *M. tharos*; *Catocala amatrrix*, *C. parta*, *Arctia Saundersii*, *A. phalerata*, and several of the Noctuidæ not yet determined by me through want of leisure. Coleoptera—*Pelidnota punctata*, *Clerus nigripes*, *Leptura Canadensis*, *Saperda vestita*, *Ligyrrus relictus*, *Clytus campestris*, *Cassida pallida*, *Hippodamia maculata*, *Chrysomela Bigsbyana*, *Diabrotica vittata*, *Macrobasis Fabricii*, several *Graphisuri*, and a most wonderful Curculio with a very alarming snout longer than its body, and the thickness of a horse-hair, belonging, I believe, to the genus *Balaninus*; and

lastly two new *Chrysomelidae*. I should have been greatly pleased if I could have spared more time in investigating this fine ground, but the weather was not very favourable, and my time was limited.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE LARVA OF CALLIMORPHA LECONTEI,

Taken June 10th, 1868, feeding on Horse Gentian (*Triosteum perfoliatum*.)

Length, 1.10 in., nearly cylindrical.

Head rather small, bilobed, black and shining, with a few short hairs, mandibles black, palpi pale brown tipped with black.

Body above black, with transverse rows of elevated shining black tubercles, from each of which arises a spreading tuft of short bristly hairs; a bright yellow dorsal stripe, and a wide band of the same color on each side, this latter intersected with streaks and centered with a broken band of black; about half-way between the dorsal and lateral stripes is a row of pale whitish dots, forming a faint broken line.

Under surface dirty greyish white, with streaks and dots of brown, feet black, prolegs dirty white on inside, with a patch of shining black on the outside of each.

These larva entered the chrysalis state on the 19th and 20th of June, and produced the imago on the 12th and 14th of July. Four specimens were reared, and the moths were as nearly alike as possible, showing no tendency to the remarkable variations attached to this species.—W. SAUNDERS, London, Ontario.

#### DESCRIPTION OF A LARVA FOUND INFESTING THE SEED OF THE GRAPE.

In the last number of the *Canada Farmer* will be found as full an account as we can yet give of the history and distribution of this insect which threatens to interfere seriously with the culture of the grape in some parts of our country. As there stated, it is probably the larva of a small species of curculio. Knowing that accurate scientific descriptions of such insects are scarcely suitable for a popular agricultural paper, I have referred the readers of *The Farmer*, who wish to pursue the subject further, to the present number of *The Entomologist*.

Usual length about one-twelfth of an inch, greatest width about one-third of the length.

Head rather small, smooth, whitish, semi-transparent; mandibles hook-like and sharp pointed, dark brown, with a patch of brown at their base.

Body above and below milk-white, semi-transparent, with a shining surface, distinctly annulated, widest along the middle segments, tapering towards

each end. The hinder edge of each segment is raised as if slightly overlapping the one behind it. Each segment has several short whitish hairs, only visible with a high magnifying power; these are most numerous on anterior segments. The two hinder segments are smaller than any of those on anterior part of body, feet and prolegs wanting.

The larva is very sluggish in its habits, and will often remain a long time motionless unless disturbed.—W. SAUNDERS, London, Ont.

#### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

A NEW THECLA.—In July last, while staying at Port Stanley, Ont., I captured a *Thecla* on the common garden Spiræa; at first sight I supposed it to be only *T. Falacer*, but on closer examination, when setting it up, I discovered some new points which, in my opinion, marked it as a fresh addition to our Canadian list. I sent it accordingly to Mr. W. H. Edwards, of Western Virginia, and I have much pleasure in stating that he considers it a new species, and has given it the name of "*Thecla Ontario*." A plate and description of this interesting capture will be given shortly in the Transactions of the American Entomological Society.—EDMUND BAYNES REED, London, Ontario.

CAPTURE OF *PIERIS RAPÆ* IN THE U. STATES.—Mr. Saunders writes in No. 2 that he took *P. rapæ* below Quebec in 1866; I have taken it this year at Lewiston, Me., and Montpelier, Vt. It was more plentiful in July and August than any other species. I noticed at both places that it was only to be found very near the city, one mile into the country beyond the cultivated kitchen-gardens I did not see a single specimen; possibly its larva lives on cultivated plants. It is well worth noticing its advance north and south, and recording the facts, so that if any change in its markings or colour takes place from the extremes of climate, future Entomologists may have data to go upon. As plentiful as *Pieris oleracea* is in Northern Vermont, I have never known it taken in this part of Massachusetts; possibly *P. rapæ* may not spread as far south as here.—PHILIP S. SPRAGUE, Boston, Mass. [The food-plants of *P. rapæ* are cabbages, mignonette, nasturtium (*Tropæolum*), and various Cruciferae. It has proved very destructive to cauliflower and cabbage plants in the neighbourhood of Quebec. An interesting account of its first occurrence in this country is given by Mr. Bowles in the *Canadian Naturalist* for August, 1864. ED.]

DARAPSA OR OTUS, which shall it be?—A correspondent reminds us that the generic name *Otus* (Nos. 13, 14 and 15 in our "Notes on Lepidoptera") is pre-occupied in Ornithology, having been applied as far back as the days of Aristotle to the horned or eared owl. The usual rule is that no generic name

shall be applied to more than one genus in any branch of Natural History, and hence Hubner's name for these Sphinges will have to be dropped, while we return to the more familiar appellation *Darapsa*. The present rules of nomenclature are highly unsatisfactory and occasion naturalists an immense amount of useless labor; we do hope that something may be done at the next meeting of the American Association to improve matters.—Ed. CAN. ENT.

PAPILIO MACHAON IN BRITISH AMERICA.—I do not know whether the Canadian Entomologists are aware that *P. machaon* is found in British America. Some years ago I received several taken by Mr. Drexler at Rupert House, Hudson's Bay.—WM. H. EDWARDS, Coalburgh, Kanawha Co., West Virginia.

#### NEW ENTOMOLOGICAL WORKS.

A GUIDE TO THE STUDY OF INSECTS, and a Treatise on those Injurious and Beneficial to Crops.—For the use of Colleges, Farm-schools, and Agriculturists. By A. S. Packard, jun., M. D., Salem: Press of the Essex Institute. Parts 1 and 2, 1868. Price 50 cents each.

This new work by Dr. Packard supplies collectors and students of insects in America with what they have long searched for in vain—a thoroughly good, reliable, well-illustrated manual of structural and systematic Entomology, prepared by one who is a master in the science. We most strongly recommend all our readers to become subscribers to this work, and we assure them that they will find in it an abundant fund of interest and instruction. The two parts already issued contain clear and concise descriptions of the anatomy, transformations, geographical and geological distribution, diseases, &c. of insects; directions for collecting and preserving specimens; a list of works on Entomology; tables of classification; and the beginning of a systematic account of the order Hymenoptera. They are illustrated by 78 well-executed wood-cuts and two full-page plates; each part consisting of about 64 clearly printed pages. The work is to be completed in 8 or 12 parts, issued at short intervals; the author particularly desires that subscribers would remit for eight parts at once (\$4 in U. S. currency), and thus materially assist the publishers in getting out the work.

THE BUTTERFLIES OF NORTH AMERICA: with colored drawings and descriptions. By Wm. H. Edwards. Philadelphia: the American Entomological Society. Part 1, April, 1868. Price \$2.

It would be difficult indeed to produce anything more beautiful or true to nature than these exquisite drawings of butterflies; they vie in excellence with any European work that we have seen. Mr. Edwards, we understand,

apart from his scientific attainments, has the finest collection of North American Diurnal Lepidoptera in existence. We can, therefore, have full confidence in his ability to carry out satisfactorily the magnificent work he has undertaken, of which the part before us is a worthy beginning. This part contains five large quarto plates of various species of *Argynnis*, viz. *A. Diana*, *Cybele*, *Aphrodite*, *Nokomis* and *Atlantis*, accompanied by descriptive letter-press of a valuable character. It is noteworthy that little or nothing is known of the larvæ of any of these five species, shewing us how much still remains to be done by Entomologists, and how far even the Butterfly field is from being worked out. Though the work is necessarily costly, it is yet one which no Lepidopterist can afford to be without, while at the same time it deserves the hearty support of all Entomologists, no matter to what order they devote their attention. Its publication at intervals of three months renders the expense of the subscription less onerous than were it to appear more frequently.

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#### EXCHANGES.

EUROPEAN NEUROPTERA.—Mr. R. McLachlan (20, Limes Grove North, Lewisham, London, S. E., England), the well-known student of Neuroptera, desires to exchange European insects of this order for Canadian ones,—*Phryganida* especially desired, but all will be acceptable. Specimens for transmission may be sent to the Editor of this Journal, REV. C. J. S. BETHUNE, Credit, Ont.

CARABIDÆ.—I should like to open a correspondence with any Entomologist in regard to exchanges of Coleoptera, especially *Carabidæ*.—PHILIP S. SPRAGUE, 141 Broadway, So. Boston, Mass.

LEPIDOPTERA.—Canadian Lepidoptera, especially species of *Catocala* (*C. relicta* in particular) desired in exchange for American Lepidoptera.—JAMES ANGUS, West Farms, N. Y.

LEPIDOPTERA.—In addition to the species mentioned in No. 1, Mr. G. W. Peck, of New York, desires the following:—*Arctia parthenos*, *Catocala relicta*, *C. briseis*, *Lycæna pambina*, and other more northern or eastern Lepidoptera. Good U. S. specimens in exchange. Apply to the EDITOR C. E.

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#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. S. R., Wooler, Ont.—Your specimens reached us in good order, thanks to careful packing. No. 1 is a rare wood boring beetle whose larva infests the Lombardy poplar, Balm of Gilead, and other trees; its name is *Prionus brevicornis*, Fab.; we should be glad of more specimens of it, if you have them to spare. No. 2 is, as you thought, the larva of the *Cecropia* Emperor



Moth (*Samia cecropia*, Linn). No. 3, Larva of the Yellow-necked Apple-worm (*Datana ministra*). No. 4, Larva of the Apple Buprestis, Borer (*Chrysolothris femorata*) which is very destructive to young trees in many parts of the country. No. 5, a true Bug (*Hemiptera*) in its wingless state. We do not know its name. There were also enclosed three caterpillars, without numbers attached; they had so lost their colours from preservation in alcohol that we were unable to determine them with certainty.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to Vol. I. have been received, with thanks, from the following:—Rev. R. B., Hamilton; Dr. R. R. S., Komoka; L. L., and H. R. W., Winona (per Mr. Pettit); G. W. P., New York; P. S. S., Boston, Mass.; J. C. O'R., T. K., O. J. P., St. Catharines; W. H. M., Coalburgh, Va. Subscriptions to the *American Entomologist* from Dr. R. R. S., Komoka; W. H. M., Hamilton; R. N. B., Niagara; Rev. R. B., Hamilton; O. T. S., Wellington Square; T. K., and O. J. P., St. Catharines.

Letters received:—H. L. M., Malden, Mass. (Nos. 1 & 2 sent; 75 cents in U. S. currency)—S. M. L., Garrettsville, Ohio, ditto; (shall be glad to receive subscriptions from your neighbourhood)—G. T. B., Quebec (a welcome letter)—T. M. T., Halifax, N. S. (Happy to hear of your safe return).

To meet the convenience of our Canadian readers we shall be happy to procure for them any of the Entomological works noticed from time to time in our columns; the cheaper publications will be sent *post free* on receipt of the prices mentioned. For sale, one copy of vol. i., several of vol. ii. of the *Practical Entomologist*, 50 cents each. We will furnish the *Canadian Entomologist* (50 cents) and the *American Entomologist* (\$1.00), post-paid, for one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per annum.

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Suitable advertisements will be inserted on reasonable terms.

*N. B.*—Correspondence is invited respecting the habits, localities, occurrence, etc., of insects, as this journal is intended to be a medium for the recording of observations made in all parts of the country; insects for identification will be gladly attended to and returned when desired. Any contributions to the publication fund will be thankfully received and gratefully acknowledged.

All communications, remittances and exchanges should be addressed to "THE REV. C. J. S. BETHUNE, *Credit, Ont., Canada.*"