

## NOTES ON LEPIDOPTERA.

MELITÆA CHALCEDON is the largest of its genus in California, ranging from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches in expanse. It is rather variable in its markings, especially on the primaries, where the spots vary from white to yellow, and run into each other and play at hide and seek with the red ones; but it is always very gay and handsome in its coat of black and red and yellow. Occasionally, also, marked cases of suffusion are found, where the fore wings are wholly suffused with a beautiful crimson, which obliterates the light markings. The eggs are light yellow, nearly globular, and very small, considering the size of the butterfly. They are carelessly laid on the upper or under side of the leaves, indifferently. In confinement they are as freely deposited on the gauze bag as upon the plant. The larvæ are spiny and woolly; rather restless in habit, moving about a good deal, and are free feeders, eating various scrophulaceous plants, also a wild rose, but are oftenest found on *Scrophularia Californica*, a perennial herb, and on *Pentstemon antirrhinoides*, a deciduous bush. In Mexico I have found the larvæ feeding in January, but in California they do not appear till April, and the butterfly is on the wing early in May. W. G. WRIGHT.

HADENELLA. n. g. Small, allied in form to *Oncocnemis Gracillima*. Front with a central navel-shaped or sub-cordate tubercle. Labial palpi short; third joint very small, hardly exceeding the infra-clypeal plate. Tongue moderate. Eyes naked, unlashd. Tibiæ unarmed. Abdomen smooth, a minute tuft at base. Vestiture scaly. Thorax thickly squamous behind. Antennæ simple.

HADENELLA PERGENTILIS. n. s. Resembles *Hadena Cyndrica*. Gray, shaded with fawn or ochrey. Orbicular oblique, pale ringed, with dark center. Reniform transverse, blackish. Claviform indicated, like orbicular. Lines obsolete. A black costal mark before the fawn-colored apical region. Terminal space with a rufous central shade, marked with blackish at internal angle. Veins dotted. Fringes gray and pale, lined at base. Hind wings pale fuscous. Washington Territory. At Mr. Neumœgen's request, I described this little species before giving him the *Noctuidæ* of my late collections.—A. R. GROTE.

HIBERNATING BUTTERFLIES. The spring has been very backward, judging from the condition of vegetation. To-day (May 8) I noticed a comparatively fresh specimen of the Camberwell Beauty, certainly a hibernated example, on the flowers of the Kentucky currant. I have observed this butterfly (*Vanessa Antiopa*) hibernating on Staten Island many years. Wintered examples have the veins denuded on the brown field of the wings. A. R. GROTE.

GRAPTA AND CALEPHELIS. I have shown that there was a botanical genus *Polygonum* when Hubner described *Polygonia* and that, therefore, Kirby's term *Grapta* should be retained for the lepidopterous genus. As to the Erycinid genus *Calephelis*, this is not a pseudogenus, based on illusory comparative characters, as are many of Mr. Scudder's, but *Borealis* and *Caenis* differ from *Nymphidia* by the hairy eyes. *Callicista*, Gr., is one of these bastard genera, which have only a sectional signification if we base, as we must, our genera upon natural characters. A. R. GROTE.

THECLA LÆTA. In the woods, near my house, to-day I took a ♀ *T. læta*, the second example I have taken here in eighteen years. *Lyc. violacea* was abundant. W. H. EDWARDS, Coalburgh, April 17, 1883.

CURIOUS VARIETY OF TELEA POLYPHEMUS. On the 16th of June I captured at Fort Lee, on the Hudson, a very singular specimen of this insect, which deserves a permanent record. It was wholly of a pale ochreous tint, smaller than the usual size, and with no appearance whatever of the transparent vitreous spots, so characteristic of the species. The bluish lunules of the secondaries are much narrower than usual, and the yellow spot which generally encloses the transparent space is reduced to a small ovate opaque patch. The specimen is a male, and was at rest on an oak tree, having just emerged from the chrysalis. CARRIE M. EDWARDS, New York, June 25, 1883.





Edwards, William H. 1883. "Thecla laeta." *Papilio* 3(5-6), 123–123.

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