

REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL BRANCH, 1902.

(Read at meeting of Club held Feb. 10th, 1903.)

The entomologists of the Club although few in number have been actively engaged during the past season, and a fair number of captures rewarded their efforts. Valuable work has been done in breeding and working out life-histories of Lepidoptera. The most successful collector has been Mr. C. H. Young, who has added several species of nocturnal Lepidoptera to the local list. His collections have been made at Hurdman's Bridge, near his residence, and at Meech Lake, P.Q., in the Laurentian Hills. Mr. Arthur Gibson has continued his studies on the Tiger Moths of the genus *Apantesis*, and has made some interesting discoveries, the results of which will soon appear in print. Dr. Fletcher and Mr. Gibson have reared from eggs several species of insects, the eggs of which have been received from correspondents, or collected in the Rocky Mountains. Among these, perhaps the most interesting are *Erebia Disa* (eggs from Mr. N. B. Sanson) and *Nemeophila petrosa*, from Banff in the Rocky Mountains; *Nemeophila Selwyni* and *Argynnis tricoloris* from Nepigon; *Antarctia rufula*, from eggs received from Mr. J. W. Cockle, of Kaslo, B.C. Mr. Young also has been successful in rearing local species from the egg and has added many fine series of specimens to his collection of inflated larvæ.

Mr. A. E. Richard has made an important addition to the local butterflies in the interesting little satyrid *Cænonympha inornata*.

Mr. Harrington has devoted much time to Diptera and has added many to previous records of the flies found at Ottawa.

In addition to the work done by the entomologists at the Club general excursions, many sub-excursions were held during the summer, and regular meetings of the Branch are being held during this winter, where short papers are read and free discussion takes place on all matters connected with this branch of research. Much good has resulted from these reunions in stirring up enthusiasm and in helping the members to settle points of identification which are troublesome when students are working alone. At one of these meetings, we were favored with a visit from Mr. J. D. Evans, of

Trenton. The orders which have received most attention in the past are the Lepidoptera, the Coleoptera, the Hymenoptera, the Diptera, the Hemiptera, and the Odonata. The leaders would be glad to see more work done in the Odonata and the Orthoptera, insects of much economic importance, the former from their predaceous habits of feeding on other insects, particularly mosquitoes, and the latter from the injuries they do to crops.

Mention may be made of the following captures during the past year—nearly all of which are additions to the Ottawa lists.

LEPIDOPTERA—

Cænonympha inornata, Edw. Near the Rifle Range, June 14. (Mr. A. E. Richard.) The same insect is reported by our Montreal member, Mr. H. H. Lyman, as having been taken near Montreal by some of the members of the Montreal Natural History Society.

Pieris rapæ, L., var. *nov-angliæ*, Scudder. This is the rare yellow variety of the Common White Cabbage Butterfly. (A. Gibson.)

Feralia major, Smith April 20. (Fletcher.)

Hepialus mustelinus, Pack. (Gibson, Young.)

Chytonix sensilis, Grt. Meech Lake, Q. (Young.)

Semiophora youngii, Smith. Mer Bleue. Sept. 18. (Young, Gibson.)

Agrotis genicula, G. and R. June 9. Meech Lake. (Young.)

Noctua jucunda, Walk. July 26 " "

" *rubifera*, Grt. July 25. " "

Porosagrotis mimallonis, Grt. Sept. 3. " "

Carneades fumalis, Grt. Sept. 3. " "

" *velleripennis*, Grt. Aug. 25. " "

Hadena nigrior, Sm. June 14. " "

" *cariosa*, Grt. July 16. " "

" *algens*, Sm. Sept. 12. " "

Hydræcia inquæsitæ, G. and R. Sept. 8. Ottawa. (Young.)

" *cerussata*, Grt. Sept. 8. Ottawa. (Young, Fletcher.)

Macronoctua onusta, Grt. Sept. 29. (Fletcher.) This has also been taken at Montreal by Mr. Winn, and at Belleville by Mr. Evans.

Tæniocampa oviduca, Grt. May 26. Meech Lake. (Young.)

" *culea*, Gn. May 31. " "

Scopelosoma devia, Grt. April 22. (Young.)

Xylina fagira, Morr. April 16. (Young.)

" *ferrealis*, Grt. Sept. (Gibson.)

Pseudolimacodes littera, Gn. June. (Gibson, Young.)

In addition to the above, it may be mentioned that the Birch trees in this vicinity were again this year much defoliated by the Birch-leaf Skeletonizer (*Bucculatrix canadensisella*, Cham.) and that columbines in gardens were considerably disfigured by the unusual numbers of the caterpillars of the skipper butterfly *Nisoniades lucilius*, Lint.

HYMENOPTERA—

The Hymenoptera of Ottawa, as compared with these insects in other parts of Canada, are comparatively well worked up; but there is much work in this very important order, waiting to be done by some specialists. Mr. Harrington has large and valuable collections in most of the sub-orders and is constantly naming material from all parts of Canada. The same may be said concerning the Diptera and the Hemiptera.

The following Hymenoptera are worthy of mention here:—

Spilomena pusilla, Say. A small wasp, new to the Ottawa list. (Harrington.)

Metopius pollinctorius, Say. (Harrington.)

Anoplonyx canadensis, Hrgtn. A new species described from Ottawa. (Harrington.)

Taxonus nigrisoma, Nort. The larva rather injurious from its habit of boring into apples to pupate. (Fletcher.)

COLEOPTERA—

Xyloryctes satyrus, Fab. (Fletcher, Harrington.)

Bellamira scalaris, Say. " "

Anthophylax attenuatus, Hald. Chelsea. (Fletcher.)

" *malachiticus*, Hald. " "

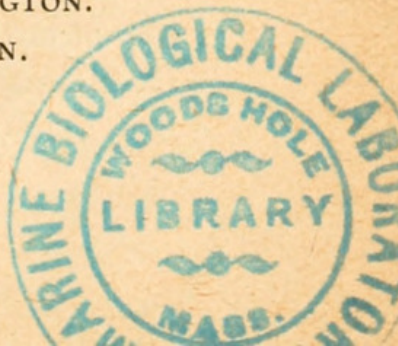
Pselaphus Erichsonii, Lec. (Harrington.)

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ARTHUR GIBSON.

C. H. YOUNG.





Fletcher, James et al. 1903. "Report of the Entomological Branch, 1902." *The Ottawa naturalist* 17(6), 107–109.

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