

In this article only those trees and plants which are conspicuous by their flowers, leaves, or habit of growth have been mentioned, and no account has been taken of cultivated plants with the one exception of those two mentioned as growing at Simba Station. To mention all the trees and plants to be seen near the railway would require a very large volume. The object of the writer has been to try to show the large variety of plants and trees which may be seen by any observant person when travelling on the Uganda Railway.

From the bamboos of the Kikuyu escarpment to the mangrove swamps of the coast, with all the enormous variety of plants and conditions of climate between, is a far cry, and yet it can all be seen within twenty-four hours!

Specific names have only been given in cases where specimens have been identified at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, or have been identified in the 'Flora of Tropical Africa,' or Engler's 'Flora of German East Africa.'

[The *Solanum campylacanthum* mentioned several times in the article is one of the best known plants in East Africa both to natives and Europeans; it is generally about two to three feet high and bears a conspicuous yellow tomato-like fruit about seven-eighths inch in diameter. This fruit plays a part in native ceremonial among the Nandi, Kamasia, Bantu Kavirondo, and A-Kamba, and its influence is generally believed to avert evil or promote peace. The Swahili name is 'Tunguja,' and this name is derived from 'Tungu,' which means a whitlow, because it is believed that a poultice made of the fresh fruit will reduce the swelling and alleviate the pain.—EDITOR. C. W. H.]

SOME EAST AFRICAN BUTTERFLIES

BY REV. K. ST. AUBYN ROGERS, M.A.

East Africa, from the standpoint of zoology, belongs to the Ethiopian region, which comprises all Africa south of the Sahara, together with a part of Southern Arabia. This region is very distinct, and the number of butterflies, at any rate which range beyond its borders, is very small, whilst whole sections

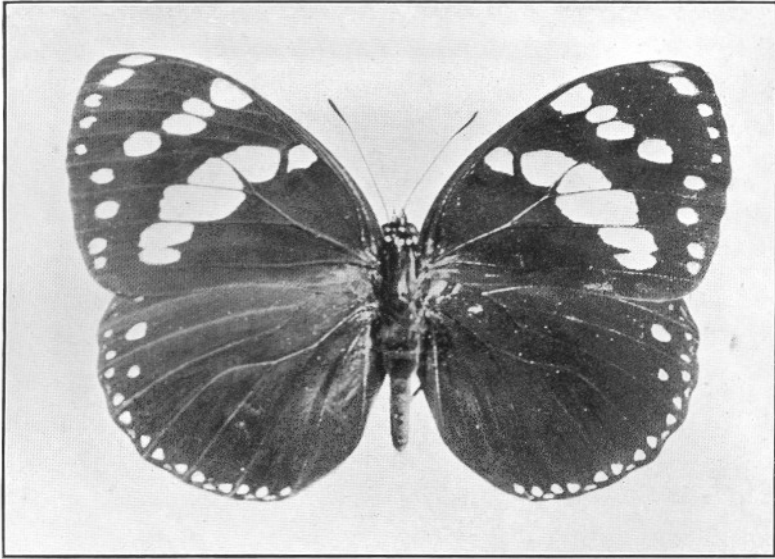
of *Nymphalidae* and *Lycaenidae* are peculiar to it. Within this region there are two well-marked sub-divisions which used to be known as the West-coast and the East-coast, but should be more properly designated the Forest and the Not-forest faunas.

British East Africa belongs mainly to the Not-forest area, but many Forest species are found in the more Western districts, and some even in outlying patches of forest right down to the coast. The more characteristic African forms belong to the Forest fauna. My own experience only extends as far as the East of the Great Rift Valley, and is mainly confined to the Not-forest area.

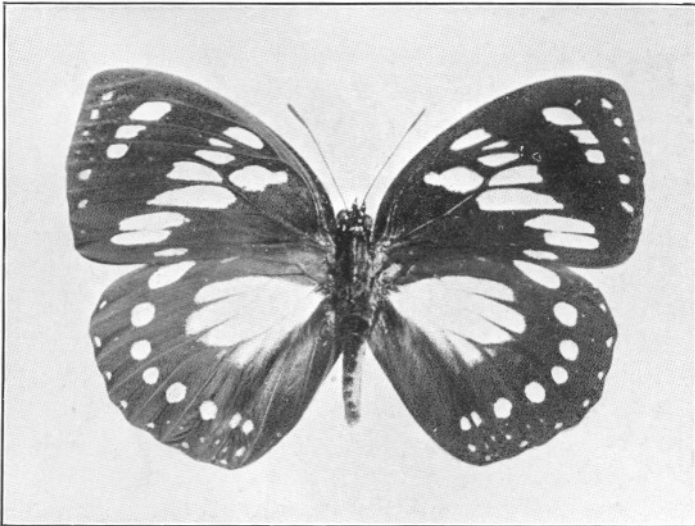
The present note is on two species of the genus *Euxanthe*, which is a very isolated genus of the family *Nymphalidae*, and is now generally regarded as allied to the great genus *Charaxes*. The genus *Euxanthe* is altogether peculiar to the Ethiopian region, and is generally distributed in the tropical parts of the country. These butterflies are of considerable size, about three or four inches in expanse, though the females may be somewhat larger. They are characterised by very broad rounded wings, the fore wings being very short in proportion to their breadth, at any rate in the males. They are generally found in forest or at any rate woodland country. There are some six species known, but I have only met with two in the districts which I have worked.

1. *Euxanthe wakefieldi*. WARD.—This species is not uncommon in the Coast district and extends as far as Taita and Taveta. It is always found in more or less wooded country, and I have met with it in such localities even on Mombasa island. It is very fond of settling on the outer leaves of trees, often fairly high up, and thence chasing its fellows from time to time, the butterflies circling round each other for some minutes before coming to rest again. It is also frequently to be seen at rest on the trunks of trees even low down, and is not difficult to capture as it has a habit of returning over the same ground again and again. It is an interesting fact that this species has very similar habits to the *Charaxes*, in spite of its very different appearance.

The male is about three inches in expanse or perhaps a little more, the fore wings being exceedingly short in proportion



EUXANTHE TIBERIUS.
Natural size.



EUXANTHE WAKEFIELDI.
Natural size.

to their breadth, so much so as to give it a distinctive appearance even during flight. It is black with blue-green markings. These consist of a broad macular band on the fore wings commencing below the costa nearer the base than the tip and extending to the anal angle; there is a row of three smaller spots near the tip, and a row of spots smaller still near the hind margin. On the hind wings there is a large blotch filling the greater part of the basal area, and two rows of spots near the hind margin, the inner row being much larger than the outer. On the under side the markings are very much the same, but the ground colour is pale brown except on the lower part of the fore wings.

The female is a larger insect, expanding four inches, with the fore wings much more produced. The markings are very similar, but all the pale markings are larger and bluish white. These differences give the butterfly a very different appearance, and in flight it bears a considerable resemblance to the large black and white *Amauris niavius*, which is a very abundant and highly distasteful insect.

This resemblance is increased by an approximation in its habits. I have never seen the female joining in the evolutions which are so characteristic of the male, but its floating flight resembles that of its model, and it settles frequently, if not generally, with its wings pendent in the same position as the *Amauris*.

2. *Euxanthe tiberius*. GROSE SMITH.—This is an even more magnificent insect than the last, and is very much rarer with a much more restricted range.

It is only found in dense patches of forest and seldom ventures out into the open. It is generally to be seen settled on trunks of small trees, and it is an insect of sluggish habits, so that it only makes short flights at a time. It is peculiar to British East Africa, whereas *E. Wakefieldi* is found as far away as Delagoa Bay.

It is, however, not quite so easy to catch as it looks, as, when disturbed, it dodges off between the trees and settles on a trunk or branch, ready to take to flight at once if one follows it, and that always before one can come within striking distance. They have a habit, however, of haunting the same spot day

after day and week after week, so that having discovered its haunts one always has a chance of finding it at home.

This species expands about three inches, the female sometimes a little more, but there is not the great disparity which there is in the last species. The markings of the fore wings are similar to those of *E. wakefieldi*, but the spots of the macular band are a little smaller and it begins on the costa nearer the base. Between this band and the base there is a blotch of rich fulvous. The outer row of spots is also nearer the base and consists of four spots larger than in *E. wakefieldi*; all these spots are pale green and are a beautiful contrast to the black ground colour. The marginal row of small spots is pure white and conspicuous.

The hind wings are dead black, with a marginal row of small white spots and two or three spots of another row inside them. The under side is very similar, but the hind wings are rich dark brown with the nervures and inter-nervular streaks black. The female is very similar except that all the pale markings are whiter and there is a very large white blotch in the basal half of the hind wings.

It is a mimic of *Amauris ochlea*, which is common in the Coast district. I have little doubt that both these *Euxanthes* are somewhat distasteful. They are both very conspicuous on the wing, and *E. tiberius* especially is very difficult to kill by pressure between the finger and thumb, which is very characteristic of distasteful butterflies. The undoubted mimicry which they exhibit towards the genus *Amauris* should therefore be regarded as Mullerian, and it is now thought that this mimicry is very usual amongst Lepidoptera.

FISHING ON LAKE VICTORIA, WITH NOTES ON THE HAGEDASH IBIS

BY 'STEREO.'

Along the western shore of Lake Victoria there exists a long tract of uninhabited and almost uninhabitable country, save by birds, innumerable crocodiles, and occasional hippo, for unfortunately throughout the greater part of its length it