

## NOTES ON LEPIDOPTERA.

**ZEUZERA ÆSCULI L.**—A fine example of this well-known European species was taken in a spider's web in Hoboken, N. J., in June last, by Mr. Schmitz. It was alive, and was endeavoring to escape from the web. The specimen is now in the collection of Mr. B. Neumoegen.—JACOB DOLL.

**A POWERFUL INSECTICIDE.**—The Department of Agriculture, at Washington, has just issued a circular with reference to *Pyrethrum roseum*, claiming that this plant is highly destructive to Insect life. It would appear likely to become of great service in preserving cabinet specimens from insect pests.—EDITOR.

**SWARMING OF COLIAS PHILODICE.**—In August last, on the White Plains R. R., near Scarsdale, I observed, settling on the track of the railway, for a space extending over a mile, immense swarms of this species. Their number can only be expressed by "myriads." When disturbed they flew up in clouds, settling again very quickly at a little distance. They were nearly all ♂♂, my estimate at the time being that there was about 1 ♀ in 500 examples. I could see no noteworthy variation in the many specimens captured, save a trifling occasional difference in the width of the marginal band. All the specimens seemed fresh, and in good condition.—EDITOR.

**BUTTERFLY PARASITES.**—An admirable paper has just been published by Dr. A. S. Packard, Jr., in the Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. History, in which the author describes 22 species of *Ichneumonidæ*, known to be parasitic on our butterflies. The forms mentioned belong to 10 genera, viz.: *Ophion*, *Campoplex*, *Trogon*, *Ichneumon*, *Microgaster*, *Pteromalus*, *Encyrtus*, *Eulophus*, *Entedon*, *Trichogramma*. The descriptions are made with Dr. Packard's usual care.—EDITOR.

**HEPIALUS GRACILIS, GRT.**—In August, 1880, I took, in one day, about twenty imagos, sitting against the trunks of trees, in a cemetery of St. John, N. B.  
A. W. PUTMAN CRAMER.

**RHODOPHORA FLORIDA, GUEN.**—On July 17, 1881, I found these beautiful noctuids, in the middle of the day, sitting in the flowers of *Oenothera biennis*, L. The colors of the insect being almost identical with those of the half-closed flowers, made it very hard to distinguish them. On the 7th of August I found, in the same spot, the young larvæ feeding on the interior of the seed pods; their heads and half their bodies being inside, while the rest of their body protruded outside through a hole, gnawed in the side of the pod. Altogether I found seventy larvæ in a small spot in Central Park, and a few near Flushing, L. I.—A. W. PUTMAN CRAMER.

**INSECT PESTS IN CALIFORNIA.**—From the Report of the California Fruit-Growers' Association (S. Francisco, 1882), we learn that the Codlin Moth (*Carpocapsa pomonella*), is causing a great deal of damage in the orchards of the State. It appears, from the address of President C. H. Dwinnelle, that this destructive species was unknown west of the Rocky Mountains until 1873, in which year it was introduced among some fruits sent from the eastern side of the continent to the State Fair, at Sacramento. The insect has spread with such rapidity that now few parts of the State may be said to be free from its attacks. In the Report there is also an allusion to two other species of Lepidoptera, said to occasion damage, viz.: *Clisiocampa Americana* and *Orgyia leucostigma*. These, however, are wrong determinations, neither of the species being found on the Pacific Coast. The insects referred to are probably *Clisiocampa Californica*, Pack., and *Orgyia vetusta*, Bdv.—EDITOR.

**DWARF BUTTERFLIES.**—Among some insects recently received by Mr. J. Akhurst, from the Upper Amazon, were several examples of the well-known tropical species, *Gynecia Dirce*, L. and *Gonepteryx Leachiana*, Godt., which are little more than one-half of the usual size.—EDITOR.



Edwards, Henry. 1882. "Swarming of *Colias philodice*." *Papilio* 2(2), 34–34.

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