

trict. There is a good index and a list of the scientific names used, at the end of the book, which is an important matter to a work of this kind and, in saying that Mr. Saunders has ably performed a tedious but much needed task, we feel that we are simply just without being at all generous. Considering the quantity and quality of this class of work it may be thought difficult to produce a striking addition to our literature of the subject, but Mr. Saunders has succeeded in doing this and since the publication of the late Dr. Harris's *Treatise on Insects Injurious to Vegetation*, which has become a classic, nothing has appeared so useful and readable, so free from objectionable and useless matter, in such equally good taste as Mr. Saunders' volume on *Insects Injurious to Fruit*. The book will find its way, undoubtedly, into many hands and will add to the solid esteem in which its author is held by all who have benefited by his scientific labors or his personal friendship. Mr. Saunders' book is like himself, good, solid, sincere and useful, utterly devoid of humbug and clap-trap, deserving of the commendation of every conscientious thinker and worker the world over. A. R. GROTE.

---

#### A NEW PRINCIPLE IN PROTECTION FROM INSECT ATTACK.

Under this caption Prof. J. A. Lintner claims originality for the idea that by deodorizing plants they will be saved from being the depositories of the eggs of insects. The pamphlet is nicely written, but contains no details of experiments to justify the author's claim, the originality of which seems unimportant in the face of the fact that practically that is what is effected by the use of many remedies against injurious insects. The pamphlet is occupied by an *ex parte* argument as to the sense of smell in insects, of which no one has publicly, we think, denied the existence. It is certainly not to sight that moths owe the finding of plants in the darkness on which to oviposit. What is needed in the use of preventatives just now is *systematic action* and *co-operation*. The labor of one farmer is neutralized by the idleness of his neighbor and injurious insects are harbored next door to where they are constantly being driven out. The remedy is the education of the rising generation. If, in the common schools throughout the country districts, practical entomology were taught in a simple elementary manner we should soon see a different state of affairs, then the young farmers would probably take the nests of the apple tree tent caterpillar in time, instead of those of the robin, and we should have more birds and less noxious insects. Professor Lintner's pamphlet is an addition to the theoretical discussion of Economic Entomology and will no doubt be read with interest in certain quarters.

A. R. GROTE.



## 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.





Grote, Augustus Radcliffe. 1883. "A new principle of protection from insect attacks; by J. A. Lintner [Review]." *Papilio* 3(5-6), 122–123.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/39873>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/318167>

**Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

**Sponsored by**

Smithsonian

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: NOT\_IN\_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.