

9. *B. Thuiella?* Packard.

Unknown to me except from the figure in the "American Naturalist," v. 5, p. 427, which does not indicate a dorsal nor an apical spot, though Dr. Packard says that it resembles *B. pomifoliella*. I place it doubtfully in this section.

These, I believe, are the only described American species.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MONTREAL, JULY 14TH, 1873.

DEAR SIR,—

I should like to be informed how to distinguish the sexes of moths and butterflies when there is no dissimilarity in the markings of the wings, &c.; also, how to distinguish *A. cybele* from *A. aphrodite*, and also to recognize *A. atlantis* and *A. montinus*, as in Harris they are not described at all, and Packard only mentions their names. I should also like to know how to preserve spiders and bugs, &c., in the best way.

Yours, &c.,

H. H. L., Montreal, P. Q.

In the larger moths the sexes may be distinguished frequently by the structure of the antennæ, they being more widely pectinate in the male than in the female. Where no distinguishing features of this kind present themselves, the relative size of the bodies will enable one to decide this matter, the bodies of the females being usually distended with eggs. A more accurate method would be to examine the character of the generative organs, for the structure of which we would refer our correspondent to Packard's Guide, p. 16, 170, 237.

In answer to the queries relating to *cybele*, *aphrodite* and *atlantis*, we quote the following from that excellent work of Mr. W. H. Edwards: "The Butterflies of North America":—

"Cybele is the larger, and the difference in color between the sexes is much less than in Aphrodite. In the latter the male is much smaller in proportion to the female, is brighter colored than Cybele, and has very little brown at base of wings. The black markings are noticeably more

delicate, the marginal lines on primaries nearer together, more or less excluding the fulvous spots which, in Cybele, are distinct along the whole margin. The margin of secondaries also has an edge line like the primaries; the median band is formed of small crescents, separated by wide spaces and obsolete on costal margin; and there is no black space between the costal and subcostal as in Cybele. On the under side the silver marginal and costal spots are decided, while in Cybele they are usually wanting, or indicated by a few scales only; the basal color of secondaries is cinnamon-brown, and the band is more or less encroached on by the ground color; the pyriform spot of third row is cut by the arc as in Cybele, but the small spot thus made is edged above with black and is in effect a distinct spot. Comparing the females, Cybele is luteous, very dark at base, heavily marked with black. Aphrodite is suffused with a rich red tint that seems as if in the very texture of the wing, and that makes living specimens conspicuous; the under side of primaries is red fulvous, of secondaries deep ferruginous, and the band is almost wholly crowded out."

"Atlantis is readily distinguished from Aphrodite by its smaller size, duller color, broad black margins, confluent median band of secondaries and color of same wings below; also by the longer and narrower fore wings."

Spider may be preserved in diluted alcohol in bottles. Bugs (*Hemiptera*) are pinned in the usual way.

We received from our esteemed correspondent, W. H. Edwards, Esq., a few days since, a letter in which he informed us that he had received from Labrador, from Mr. Wm. Couper, specimens of a *Papilio* which has already been several times referred to in our journal. With the writer's consent we have much pleasure in inserting the following note, which has just come to hand.—ED. C. E.

COALBURGH, W. VA., 24TH AUG., 1873.

DEAR SIR,—

I have taken the *Papilio*'s from Anticosti from drying blocks, and have compared with all the allied species that I had with me; also, have compared with the description of *Brevicauda*, Saunders, and I have no doubt that the species is a good one and its name is *Brevicauda*. It is allied to *Zimmaon* and *Machaon*.

But the above is seen to differ in this, that the hind wings are black from base to yellow band beyond the cell, while in all the others named the color of that section of the wing is yellow. Also, the body is black spotted with yellow, in longitudinal lines, as in *Asterias*, while in the before named species the wings are black with yellow stripes, not spots. There are other differences, but these are enough to mention.

The yellow spots of *Brevicauda* are replaced with fulvous to a remarkable extent, but that peculiarity is not unusual in the group, nor in the *Asterias* group. These specimens from Anticosti differ greatly in this respect, though in all I have seen the fulvous is confined to the lower side. They also differ in length of tail, though the longest is short compared with the average *Asterias*.

Yours truly,

W. H. EDWARDS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TENT CATERPILLARS (*Clisiocampa*).—These pests were very numerous here this season, swarming on the trees of both orchard and forest. I observed one Thorn tree on Montreal Mountain that had been completely stripped of its leaves by them, leaving nothing but a few old webs that one might fancy were banners left to mark the path of a victorious army. A little farther on I found another horde encamped upon two Thorn trees that were growing one on each side of a large rock; not finding the leaves of the tree on which their parent had placed them to their taste, they made a path across the rock to the tree at the other side, and upon which they climbed by two or three leaves that rested against the edge of the rock. Now, if it had not been for the leaves touching the rock the caterpillars would have had to crawl down one tree and up the other whenever they needed food, and their instinct seemed to have taught them so, for although the whole nestful of hungry caterpillars crossed the leaves every time they went to feed, not one of them attempted to eat their bridge, but passed farther on before commencing their meal. In former seasons any of these caterpillars that I observed spinning up, chose the shelter of a fence or crevices in bark or some such place to make their cocoons in, but this season I found them rolling up leaves and making their cocoons inside them, and in some cases I found two cocoons in the same leaf. I found them spun up in almost every kind of leaf, Linden,