

California, Mr. Hy. Edwards and Mr. Behrens. Several specimens show a range of variation in the extent of the brown and palest tint on the primaries above.

22. *Mamestra laudabilis* (Guen.)

California, Mr. Hy. Edwards.

23. *Mamestra 4-lineata* Grote, Bul. Buf. Soc., N. S. 1, p. 140, plate 4. fig. 15 and List, p. 13.

California, Mr. Hy. Edwards and Mr. Behrens.

24. *Dianthæcia leucogramma* Grote, List p. 64.

California, Mr. Hy. Edwards and Mr. Behrens.

25. *Dianthæcia rufula* Grote, List of the Noct. of N. Am., p. 64.

California, Mr. Behrens. "Oakland, No. 22."

26. *Dianthæcia insolens* Grote, List of the Noct. of N. Am., p. 65.

California, Mr. Behrens.

27. *Oncocnemis Behrensi* Grote, List of the Noct. of N. Am., p. 65.

California, Mr. Behrens. "Sanzalito, Feb. 10th to 24th."

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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##### GRAPTA COMMA AND DRYAS.

Dear Sir,—

I am able to give you the results of an experiment made with *Grapta comma*, the converse of that made in 1873 with *dryas*. On the 10th of May last I took a female, true *comma*—red hind wings and plain brown underside—and tied it up to a branch of Hop-vine, which branch was free from eggs of any sort. She laid in the bag some forty eggs, and I had from them thirty-nine caterpillars. Most of them in due time reached the chrysalis state, and between the 10th and 15th June there emerged thirty-four butterflies—every one a *dryas*. In the fall of 1873, from eggs of *dryas*, there resulted a large number of *comma* and six *dryas*, as stated in the ENTOMOLOGIST for October. I think this fully settles the question of the dimorphism of the species.

Yours truly,

W. H. EDWARDS, Coalburgh, W. Va.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Dear Sir,—

I send you the following items, hoping they may prove of interest:

*CLISIOCAMPA SYLVATICA*.—The caterpillars of this pest are swarming on almost every description of tree or shrub in the vicinity of this city, many trees being completely denuded of foliage. *C. Americana* is also common on apple trees.

*LACHNOSTERNA QUERCINA*.—This insect, though usually very abundant, has been quite scarce this season; I have not seen more than a dozen specimens.

DEPRAVED TASTE OF *P. TURNUS*.—One day early in June a *P. turnus* which I was pursuing hovered over and alighted upon some cow droppings, thrust out its tongue, and settled itself quietly to its disgusting repast. While in this position it was easily captured.

On the 27th of July, last year, it rained very heavily during the evening in the vicinity of Portland, where I was spending the summer; but the night seemed very favorable for moths, a large number entering the house, among them a fine specimen of *Philampelus satellitia*, two of *Arctia virgo*, and one of *Arctia rubricosa*, besides a number of others with the names of which I am not acquainted.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EGG OF *GASTROPACHA AMERICANA*.—The eggs of this moth are very pretty, being white with peculiar black markings. They were laid June 27th, by a female reared in confinement. Length .06 of an inch; width, .045. Form oval, flattened at the base and also above, but a little thicker at one end than at the other. At each end there is a semi-circular stripe and dot, closely resembling the crescent and star of the Turkish arms, and these markings are larger and more distinct on the larger end. On both the flattened surfaces there are markings like eyes, each formed by an oval spot in the centre, with a curved stripe above and a shorter straight one below, of which the latter is widened towards the extremities. Between and parallel to the two eye-brow-like marks there is another black stripe which is widest at the larger end of the egg and tapers towards the other. Over the whole surface there is a minute indented reticulation, the meshes of which are irregular in form, with a depressed dot in the centre of each.

H. H. LYMAN, Montreal, P. Q.

Dear Sir,—

A few days ago I went to a swamp where *Phaeton* feeds in early spring, and discovered several of the webs of that species spun over the stems of *Chelone glabra* and whatever other plants were contiguous. Within the webs were larvae about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, and as during the last few days, since I have had a number of them in the house, there is no appearance of feeding by the larvae, I presume they are quiet for the season and till next March. Seeing a good many *Phyciodes marcia* flying in the swamp it occurred to me to try a female with a stem of *Chelone glabra*, and I did so with satisfactory results, as three days after I enclosed her in a bag, she laid about 75 eggs on the under side of one of the leaves. I hope I have at least found the food plant of this species, after having tried a score of plants to no purpose.

W. H. EDWARDS.

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#### EDITORIAL SUMMARY

**PALÆONTOLOGY OF ONTARIO.**—We are much pleased to observe that the Legislature of this Province is extending its liberality in the cause of Science to other departments, besides those somewhat utilitarian branches of Entomology and Horticulture, as is eminently manifest from the excellent Report before us on the Palæontology of Ontario. It has been prepared by Prof. H. Alleyne Nicholson, of the University of Toronto, and contains descriptions and figures of the organic remains of the Devonian Formation of Western Canada. No less than one hundred and sixty species of fossils are described, and illustrated by means of nearly sixty wood-cuts in the text, and eight splendid lithographic plates. It is noteworthy, also, that all the figures are original, except two of the wood cuts. We trust that the Legislature will long continue its assistance to this excellent work, and that Prof. Nicholson may be enabled to carry out a complete investigation of the Palæontology of all the fossiliferous geological formations in this country.

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AMONG the "old country" publications that we have lately received, we may mention the 15th number of the *Scottish Naturalist* (Dr. F. B. White, Perth.) We gather from its pages that a goodly number of Field Clubs are being organized in Scotland, and that