

SMERINTHUS OPHTHALMICUS, BD.

In the July number of CAN. ENT., page 143, Prof. French described the larval stages of this species but did not observe the egg and first stage. These I can supply, as follows :—

Egg.—Elliptical, flattened above and below, smooth, slightly shiny ; colour probably green. Under the microscope it is seen to be covered with crowded minute shallow depressions. Dimensions, $2.0 \times 1.8 \times 1.3$ mm. Laid singly on under surface of leaf.

First Larval Stage.—Head rounded, slightly bilobed, not pointed as in the next stage, green, slightly shiny, and dotted with yellow, but not granulated, with a curved yellow line from before the eyes on each side, meeting each other below the vertex. Antennæ and labrum white ; jaws and ocelli black. Width, 1 mm. Body annulated, minutely pilose and dotted with yellow, with a distinct pale yellow subdorsal line and oblique lateral lines on joints 5–12, occurring above and below the subdorsal line, but dislocated, except on joint 12 where a single distinct line runs to the base of the horn. Horn minutely pilose, dark red, pale at base, 2 mm long.

The second stage is as described by Prof. French ; width of head, 1.5 mm.

Food Plant.—Poplar (*Populus*). Larvæ from Mariposa County, California.
HARRISON G. DYAR.

CORRESPONDENCE

MELITÆA PHAETON.

Sir,—While spending a few days in Ottawa, during July of last year, I was fortunate enough to find a batch of the larvæ of *Melitæa phaeton*, which composed a large colony in their tent-like web upon the tip of a robust stem of *Chelone glabra*, which is their favorite food plant in that district. I was anxious to breed the species, so boxed the whole colony and brought it back with me to Port Hope. Here, however, I could not find any plants of *Chelone glabra*. Upon turning up Scudder's "New England Butterflies," I found that honeysuckle, *Lonicera*, was given as a food plant. I first offered the larvæ leaves of trumpet honeysuckle, obtained from a neighbour ; but, as this was not convenient, I resolved to try them on Tartarian honeysuckle, of which an abundance grew in the

garden. They took to it with comparative readiness, and much to my delight I succeeded in bringing a goodly number through the winter. I hibernated them in an area window below the surface of the ground, but without any special care. Towards the end of April, as soon as the young leaves began to unfold, I took them out of winter quarters and fed them again on the Tartarian honeysuckle. The first specimen began to pupate about the end of June, and in July I had the pleasure of seeing the perfect butterflies.

A. M. BETHUNE.

Port Hope, August 28, 1891.

HALISIDOTA TRIGONA.

Sir,—When describing this species in Kansas Transactions I gave the differences which I observed between Herrich-Schæffer's figure of the Brazilian species, *specularis*, and my material. Mr. Dyar's note was therefore not warranted and, had he seen the Kansas Transactions, he probably would not have published it. In reply to Mr. Smith's note, I would state, that I have not seen the British Museum material. I do not know whether this is correctly determined, but I should rely on Mr. Butler's comparisons, as he most certainly knows Herrich-Schæffer's work. The type of *specularis* came, I presume, from Boisduval, and will in this case be accessible to study. The matter will probably be settled by the bringing together of fresh material from the south-west and by breeding the North American species. In the meantime *trigona* must stand as the first description of a North American species belonging to the *specularis* group, which seems to belong, more particularly, to South America.

A. R. GROTE.

LIMENITIS LORQUINI.

Sir,—Please correct my statement, p. 174, that "the second brood of larvæ (of *L. lorquini*) probably hibernate in the second stage," etc., to the following:—"Part of the first brood, and the entire second brood, pass the winter in the second larval stage in hibernacula formed of the basal part of a leaf spun together at the top."

H. G. DYAR, Yosemite, Cal.

AGROTIS SUBGOTHICA.

Sir,—In reply to Mr. Tutt's note in the July number of the CAN. ENT., p. 159, I would state that I have no knowledge of Haworth's work in which *subgothica* is described. I have everywhere taken Stephens's identifications of Haworth's species. Now Stephens figures *jaculifera* of Guenée, as figured in the Species Général, typical *jaculifera*, as *subgothica*, of Haworth (?). If, then, Stephens is wrong, and Haworth's *subgothica* is a variety of *tritici* and not our American species, this latter must be known as *jaculifera*, and Prof. Lintner's name of *tricosa* must then clearly be retained for that species, as insisted upon by myself. Stephens's figure is unmistakably based on our American species; how nearly the European *tritici* resembles this I cannot, at the moment, say. The following will be the synonymy of *Agrotis jaculifera*. According to Mr. Tutt's statement that *subgothica* of Haworth is a variety of *tritici* of Linné, our American species must be listed as follows:—

jaculifera, Guen., fig.

subgothica, Steph, fig. in err.

tricosa, Lintner.

jaculifera, Guen. var. A.

jaculifera, Smith, in err.

herilis, Grote.

jaculifera, Guen. var. B.

herelis, Smith.

A. R. GROTE.

SOME CORRECTIONS.

Sir,—In my paper, CAN. ENT., page 152, I say I have placed *Agrotis costata* and its near ally *A. idahoensis* "together wrongly," line 10. It is clear from the context that I meant in a wrong position in my lists. The two species are closely allied, differing in colour, *costata* being reddish, *idahoensis* purplish, and, in *costata*, the pallid costal region is whiter and broader. The two belong together. I have always associated them, and, indeed, described the one comparatively with the other. The types are in British Museum. On page 148, line 6 from bottom, for grouping, read association. On page 151, for "The Practical Entomologist," read the practical entomologists. I was writing, not of a publication, but of a class of working entomologists, whose figures (mostly duplications of the same cut) confounded the three forms: *subgothica*, Stephens (= *jaculifera*, Guen.), *tricosa*, Lintner (= *jaculifera*, Smith), and *herilis*, Grote (= *herelis*, Smith). A. R. GROTE.

Mailed September 21st, 1891.