

letzte Rest desselben. Die *philoxenus*-Gruppe leitet uns dann hinüber zu *iophon* und von diesem zu *aristolochia*.

Was nun die Formen der *alcinous*-Gruppe betrifft, so muss der Name *alcinous* einer der japanischen Generationen bleiben, denn einer japanischen Form ist er (von Klug) gegeben. Später hat Felder*) eine chinesische Form als *Pap. menci* beschrieben. Es ist aber nicht möglich, nach der Felder'schen Beschreibung dahinter zu kommen, welche der bei den mir vorliegenden chinesischen Formen er meint; seine Angaben passen genau auf Beide. Felder schreibt von *menci*:

„er unterscheidet sich nicht nur durch Farbe und Gestalt der Hinterflügelmonde, sondern auch durch die längeren und schmälere Hflgl. und die an der Basis kaum verjüngten Schwänze.“

Diese Unterschiede, dem japanischen *alcinous* gegenüber, treffen auf beide, sonst verschiedene chinesische Formen zu, sowohl auf Form 2 als auf Form 5. Nun bemerkt Lecch wieder**), dass er *alcinous*-Stücke aus Süd-Japan besitze, die von *menci* „schwer unterscheidbar“ seien, und Elwes***) will gar den Oberthür'schen *plutonium* mit *menci* vereinigen (wenn auch nur mit einem Fragezeichen), wie auch den *P. spathatus* Butler's. — Mit dem letztern dürfte er sicher recht haben; im Uebrigen möge es hier genügen, die sechs paläarktischen *Pharmacophagus* kurz charactersirt zu haben; ihnen allen Namen zu geben, dürfte sich ganz gewiss aus praktischen Gründen empfehlen, einerlei, ob sie Saisonformen, Lokalvarietäten oder vicariirende Arten sind.****)

(Fortsetzung folgt)

Note on *Bombyx quercus*, L.

by Frank Bromilow.

The article by Mr. Eugen Mory, on „Parthenogenesis of *B. quercus*“, in the „Societas entomologica“ of April 1st last (1895), suggested by my remarks entitled „Emergence of Sexes in *Bombyx quercus*, L.“ in the same journal, and published in the issue for February 1st last (1895), was very interesting, and gave food for reflection. It did not, indeed, occur to me, that the singular phenomenon of parthenogenesis was to be met with in this species,

*) C. & R. Felder in Wien, ent. Monatschrift, 1862, p. 22.

**) Proceed. Zoolog. Soc. Lond. 1887, p. 405.

***) Ibid. 1881, p. 872.

****) Auf die Nomenclatur soll später, wenn ich den entsprechenden Theil von Lecch's eben erscheinendem Werke zur Hand habe, nochmals zurückgekommen werden.

or, I should certainly have kept the 162 eggs laid by my female of *Bombyx quercus*, and have given them a chance of developing. As it was, I concluded, without reflection, that the ova were, as a matter of course, infertile, the female having been alone all the time from its birth, and forthwith threw the eggs out into the garden, where, no doubt, they perished in the great frost of '94—'95.

Mr. Mory says that males and females were never developed at the same time, this coinciding with my experience of *quercus*. I mentioned in my notes, that that larva which was first to pupate (or, to put it in another way, that that chrysalis which was the first to be formed) was not the first to yield an imago, and, in case this isolated instance were not considered, in itself, enough to prove the rule, I hasten to adduce further, though, I fear, perhaps, inconclusive evidence, in the shape of another instance from my own observation, as recorded in my diary, namely, that of *Rhodocera cleopatra*, L. Before I left Nice, South of France, I collected a few caterpillars of *R. cleopatra* from buckthorn (*Rhamnus*) behind our house, which produced eventually three pupae. On 29th June (1894) a female emerged, but this individual did not result from the chrysalis which was first to be formed; the first-made pupa was found to have failed, on July 2nd of the same year, the imago being fully formed and ready to come forth, but having decayed, possibly through being unable to release itself from the pupal shell, this often being caused by a lack of vitality, due to the quondam larva from which the chrysalis was constructed, having been puny, or otherwise defective; of the third pupa, I have no record, except that it died. I may say that, several years ago, I bred a male *cleopatra* from the egg, watching it through all its succeeding stages of caterpillar, chrysalis, and imago.

This is recorded in my „Butterflies of the Riviera.“ Now, from my two little articles, — in which category I include the present paper, — we have two facts, of which I think we may, perhaps, consider the second as practically proved? — viz: (1) that the female of both *Rhodocera cleopatra* and *Bombyx quercus* (all the larvae of the latter insect being taken within a few months of each other, though from different zones of temperature etc. and from different ancestors and broods), can hatch before the males, and, (2) that the chrysalids (of *R. cleopatra* and *B. quercus*, at least), which are the

first to be made, are not, necessarily, the first to yield perfect insects, though, I suppose, as a rule, the opposite is the case in most lepidoptera. Anyone can verify these facts for themselves, but, it is above all things essential, that healthy stock should be secured, so as to guard against failure and disappointment. As regards the parallel cases of *Rhodocera cleopatra* and *Bombyx quercus*, then, just referred to. To carry out the experiments successfully, it would, moreover, be indispensable that all the caterpillars should be of the same batch. That is to say, all the offspring of one parent female, coming from the same lot of ova; so as to be able to start from the same point, and on identical terms. This much is imperative in all scientific investigations. Yet, I note, that Mr. Mory, for his part, *mixed the larvae* obtained from the eggs which his female deposited, with some others not of the same brood, procured in a state of nature. Further, it would have been more satisfactory to have had all the caterpillars, from the time of their exits from the ova, under close supervision in captivity. Now, while given natural conditions many things escape attention which, in our cages, are readily observed, the reverse also holds good. That is to say, that other facts can only properly be noted in a state of nature. But all these things open up wide questions, which I will not further pursue.

Briefkasten der Redaktion.

Herrn **C. P.** in **G.** *Jacobaea* ist die einzige europäische *Euchelia*, es handelt sich also vermuthlich um eine Varietät.

Herrn **S.** in **L.** Alles richtig eingetroffen, danke schönstens dafür.

Herrn **S.** in **Z.** Die Schachtel kam in meinen Besitz; Erledigung folgt baldigst.

Herrn **S.** in **A.** Gegenwärtig sind die gewünschten Cataloge alle versandt.

Vereinsbibliothek.

Von Herrn Frank Bromilow ging als Geschenk ein: The Transactions of the Entomological Society of London for the year 1895, Part. I.

Von Herrn Fruhstorfer:

Allerlei Neues über *Agrias* von H. Fruhstorfer.

Von Herrn Professor John B. Smith:
New Jersey Agricultural Colloge Experiment Station Bull. 109.

Cut Worms: The Sinuate Pear Borer:
The Potato Stalk-Borer: Bisulphide of Carbon as an Insecticide

by John B. Smith.

Bulletin 103. Some Insects Injurious to Shade Trees

by John B. Smith.

Bulletin 106. The San Jose Scale in New-Jersey
by John B. Smith.

Der Empfang wird dankend bestätigt

M. Rühl.

Domizilwechsel.

Herr Max Nürnberg wohnt nun Neu-Ruppingtonstr. Nr. 1 II.

Herr H. Meeske wohnt 323 Wyckoff Aven. Brooklyn, New York.

Berichtigung.

Das in letzter Nummer angemeldete neue Mitglied heisst Herr Faltin nicht Fallin.

Todes-Anzeige.

Unter tiefstem Bedauern bringe ich Ihnen zur Kenntniss, dass unser langjähriges Mitglied und treuer Mitarbeiter

Herr Carl Schmidt,

Betriebsassistent auf den Siegersdorfer Werken

am 8. Mai, Nachts 2 Uhr sanft entschlafen ist.

Er wird bei einem grossen Theil der Mitglieder in gutem Andenken bleiben.

Redaktion der Soc. ent.

Anzeigen.

Ersuche höflich um Einsendung der fälligen Mitgliedsbeiträge.

M. Rühl.

Hab. scita Puppen!

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