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BUTTERFLIES OF CHANCE OCCURRENCE IN CASS COUNTY,
IOWA.

FRANK C. PELLETT.

The distribution of butterflies is strangely local with many species. Not having sufficient data at hand to justify an attempt to catalogue the butterflies of this locality, I am led to offer a list of a few species that are so seldom seen here as to make it unlikely that they would be taken by one making a study of only a few weeks' duration.

Some species that one would expect to find present in considerable numbers have been seen but seldom during the three years over which my collecting has extended. Other species known to be fairly common only about sixty miles distant have never been met with at all, though more or less time has been spent in the field in every month of the season. It is a well known fact that the relative abundance varies greatly in different seasons. I have noted that some species extremely abundant one season will be almost entirely absent, perhaps, the next. Those of which only from one to three or four specimens are taken during a period of three summers are not very likely to prove abundant at any time.

The Queen. *Anosia berenice* Cramer.

On August 31, 1912, I took a single specimen of this species, the only one ever taken in this part of the state to my knowledge. The difference in coloring between this species and *plexippus*, its near relative, is very marked. It is also somewhat smaller than that species. The difference in the markings is not so apparent as in the coloring. The camera, unfortunately, does not bring out these differences prominently in the photo.

Clouded Wood Nymph. *Satyrus alope nephele* Kirby.

I have found this species to be very abundant in western Nebraska and South Dakota. Although from its range it would be expected here, I have not found it except on two or three occasions and then only in the varietal form, *nephele*.

The Buckeye. *Junonia coenia* Hubner.

A single frayed specimen was taken October 17, 1911. I do not recall ever seeing another in this locality.

The Snout Butterfly. *Libythea bachmanni* Kirtland.

From the range given in the books this species may be expected almost anywhere, but the only specimen falling under my eye was taken on July 8, 1913.

Cloudless Sulphur. *Catopsilia eubule* Linnaeus.

Although this species is reported as of frequent occurrence within less than one hundred miles, I have succeeded in taking only one, a female, on September 6, 1913. One or two others have been seen on the wing that resembled this specimen, but as they were not captured the identity is uncertain.

The Mexican Yellow. *Terias mexicana*.

The only specimen in my collection is dated August 19, 1912. One other specimen of the same species was taken previously, but was too badly damaged to be of value. Apparently very rare in this locality.

The Common Eastern Swallowtail. *Papilio asterias* Fabricius.

This species is to be taken occasionally, but is by no means common. Some seasons it will not be seen at all.

The Papaw Butterfly. *Papilio ajax* Linnaeus.

In July, 1912, a specimen of this species was taken at my home, the only specimen so far secured. One or two others have been seen on the wing which appeared to be the same. The fact that its food plant, the papaw, is absent from the locality probably accounts for its rarity.

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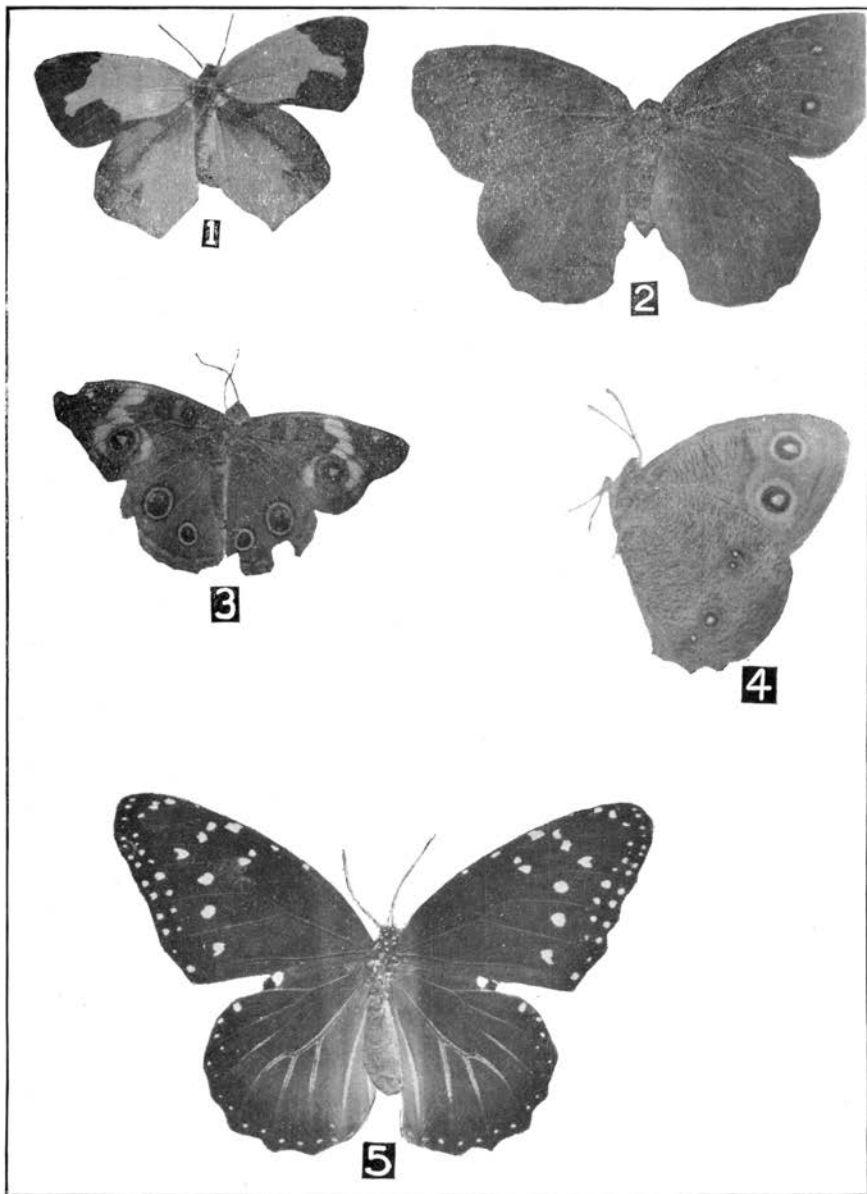


FIG. 1.—Mexican Yellow Butterfly, *Terias mexicana*. Cass county, August 19, 1912.

FIG. 2.—Clouded Wood Nymph, *Satyrus alope*, var. *nephele*. Wings open. Cass county, August, 1912.

FIG. 3.—Buckeye, *Junonia coenia* Hubner. Atlantic, October 17, 1911.

FIG. 4.—Clouded Wood Nymph. Wings closed.

FIG. 5.—The Queen, *Anosia berenice*. Cass county, August 31, 1912.