

darker above than in the typical insect, while the primaries are variegated by a ferruginous brown basal shading, continued narrowly along the internal margin and connecting with a similarly coloured band, extending, on its inner side, parallel with the external margin, but its outer edge starts from the outer margin above the internal angle and runs obliquely inward, so that the band ends in a point before reaching the costa. The upper part of this band, as well as the outer part of the basal shading, has a purplish tint. Fringe dark brown.

I should judge this to be the ordinary ♂ of *L. inornata*, in New York. A single ♀, also raised from these larvæ, fits the description above referred to.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE.

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##### ARZAMA OBLIQUATA.

*Dear Sir:* In reply to Mr. Moffat and Mr. Kellicott, I wish to say that both of these gentlemen are mistaken in saying that the larvæ of *Arzama obliquata* go to the shore in the fall of the year to stay over the winter. On the 25th of November last my friend, Chas. P. Mackisney, of Arlington, N. J., and I took a walk through the meadows at Arlington, which cover from fifteen to twenty square miles. We did not find any signs of *Arzama* except in one place about two hundred feet square, and there in every reed we cut we found a larva, but we had to cut below the surface of the water to get them. I went out to the meadows again to-day (the 22nd of February) in order to get some larvæ to send to Mr. Moffat and Mr. Kellicott, and I found some about four hundred feet from the shore, where I had to cut the ice to get to the bottom of the reeds. I got four larvæ and shall send them to these gentlemen in order that they may see for themselves that I was right in my statements (C. E., xx., 119). I also wish to state that if they require further evidence I should like them to come to New Jersey, and I will take them to a place where they can get a car load of cat-tail reeds with larvæ in them throughout the whole winter. I do not think that Dr. Riley is correct in saying that the female lays her eggs in masses. I have always found them deposited singly, and I do not think it likely that they would be laid otherwise, because it would be impossible for a number of larvæ to live in one reed.

H. H. BREHME, Newark, New Jersey.

## ARZAMA OBLIQUATA.

*Dear Sir:* On reading Mr. Kellicott's communication in CAN. ENT. for February, 1889, I learn that his observations concerning the habits of *Arzama obliquata* G. & R. larvæ, do not agree with mine. Up to the 26th of January of the present year I held the same opinion as he does, and I was not a little bit surprised on hearing of its being a winter feeder. Requiring some lining for a few packing boxes which I was preparing to send by mail, I had occasion to go to the marsh for some stalks (commonly known as rushes, but by botanists, I suppose, as *Typha*), which make a convenient substitute for cork. The very first stalk that I cut showed that larvæ had been at work. This at once brought to my mind the recent communications of which Mr. Kellicott writes, so I began an investigation and was much surprised at the result. Besides a number of empty pupæ and a mature larva (which I always find in the form of a loop, with one end shorter than the other) at rest for the winter, down in the thick part of the stalk, I found three immature larvæ at full length up in the small part and surrounded by evidence of recent feeding. During my nine or ten years of collecting, I have raised both *Arzama obliquata* and *diffusa* from mature larvæ found on shore in old wood and other rubbish, mostly every year. Some I have found as early as November 3rd, and others in every month until May. Having always found them pretty plentiful on shore, I was of the opinion that it was their habit always to come there to transform, but my observations on the above date convince me that those I had hitherto found were only wanderers, while the main body remain at home to undergo their transformation. As for their being single brooded here I agree with him. I have found two or three moths late in July, but those I should say came from larvæ which passed the winter in the immature state, rather than from eggs laid that season.

March 9th, 1889.

JAMES JOHNSTON, Hamilton, Ont.

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NOTES.

We are glad to learn that Mr. John B. Smith, of the National Museum, Washington, has been appointed State Entomologist of New Jersey. He will enter upon his new duties on the first of April, and will reside at New Brunswick, N. J. While we congratulate the State upon securing the