

BRITISH HONDURAS, Corosal (*Roe*); GUATEMALA³, Chisoy and Polochic valleys, Choctum (*Hague*), central valleys (*F. D. G. & O. S.*^{1 2}), Dueñas (*F. D. G. & O. S., Champion*), San Gerónimo (*F. D. G. & O. S., Champion*), Panima, Chiacam, and San Juan in Vera Paz (*Champion*); PANAMA, Calobre (*Arcé*), Lion Hill (*M. Leannan*⁴).—VENEZUELA; ECUADOR².

When we first submitted the comparatively small series of this form of *Phyciodes* to Mr. Bates, on our return from Guatemala in 1863, he considered that they were separable into five species. The large additional materials which have since come into our hands now show us that the lines of demarcation between at least four of these forms are obliterated; and therefore we have no alternative but to unite them under one name. At the same time, we have thought it desirable to figure a typical example of each of Mr. Bates's species, to show more clearly what they are than can be expressed in words.

The characters are chiefly to be sought on the underside of the wings.

The typical form of *P. ptolyca* is represented on Plate XXI. (figg. 32, 33) and described above. This is a common form throughout Guatemala, and we have many specimens from the highlands near Dueñas and from San Gerónimo; but the variety *P. stesilea* (represented by fig. 36) occurs, but in very sparing numbers, in both localities. The variety *P. alethes* also occurs at Dueñas; but we have not yet seen specimens from any other part of Central America, though it is found in Venezuela and Ecuador. This variety is represented by fig. 35.

The variety *P. lelex*, represented by fig. 34, appears to be commoner in Mexico than in Guatemala, and it is also the only one of this form found in the State of Panama.

These varieties are connected together by insensible degrees, and there seems to be no stability in the very indefinite markings of the underside by which to distinguish them. Nor do the sinuations of the outer margin of the primaries offer a better result.

As regards the distribution of the species as a whole, it is worthy of remark that it seems to be entirely absent from Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and the district of Chiriqui, where, as far as the two latter countries are concerned, other members of the genus amply supply its place.

The careful observations of Mr. W. H. Edwards on *P. tharos* and its allies, which have led to such remarkable discoveries as regards the seasonal broods of that species, remind us that some similar influence may be at work in the case of the present insect, and that the broods of the wet season and of the dry season may be so different as to account for the extreme variation observed. This question can only be settled by an entomologist working in the country where *P. ptolyca* is found, and raising successive broods over a considerable period of time.