

OSCAR THEODOR BARON (1847-1926)<sup>1</sup>

F. MARTIN BROWN

Fountain Valley School, Colorado Springs, Colo.

In trying to restrict the type locality of *Cercyonis baroni* Edwards to a more particular place than Mendocino County, California, I searched the literature for information about O. T. Baron. Neither in the very brief mention by Essig (1931: 552) nor in the only other article noted by Carpenter (1953: 263), O. Meissner's obituary of Baron (1929: 131), could I find any details of Baron's travels in California. This led me to search for primary material, letters from Baron to his associates. There is no letter in the limited amount of W. H. Edwards' correspondence preserved in the archives of the State of West Virginia in Charleston, W. Va. There are 74 items in the Strecker correspondence housed in the department of entomology, Chicago Natural History Museum. Twenty-six items in the Henry Edwards correspondence are in the library of the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Koebele's letterbook in the archives of the Pacific Coast Entomological Society stored at the California Academy of Sciences contains fifteen items. From these letters and postcards, over a hundred in number, I have been able to bring together a considerable body of information that may be of use to others.

Oscar Theodor Baron was born on September 9, 1847, in Repsch, East Schleswig, Germany. He was the son of a schoolmaster. According to his sister, Baron started collecting insects at the early age of 13 years while a student at the Gymnasium in Neustadt. As a young man he shipped as a sailor to the Orient and visited India, China, and the Indo-Australian islands. He was shipwrecked on Java, where he contracted scurvy. From there he shipped to the west coast of America. His first job in the New World was as a surveyor. He mapped a small island off the coast. On it he collected little-known beetles that were deposited with the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. This much I learned from Meissner's account. The name of the island is lost.

## THE HENRY EDWARDS CORRESPONDENCE

The earliest Baron letters that I have read are in the Henry Edwards correspondence. The first one is dated "Navarro. Apr. 18th 76." At that time Baron was 28 years old and worked at loading schooners plying between a small mill in Navarro, Mendocino County, and San Francisco.

<sup>1</sup> This study was in part supported by N.S.F. Grant GB-194.

In his spare time he collected moths, butterflies, and other insects. He also made some botanical collections. Baron considered Navarro his home until the end of the summer of 1879, when he moved to Mendocino, another small coastal town. It is apparent from the text of this first letter that Baron and Henry Edwards had exchanged previous correspondence. The second letter preserved from 1876 is dated from Mendocino, December 15th. In it Baron noted "I find that the *Saturnia* and the *P. Ceanothy* [sic!] feed also on *Arctostaphylos*. . . ."

There are four letters written in 1877 from Navarro. There is every indication in these that he was so busy that he had little time for collecting. He continued to raise saturnids and other moths from larvae and eggs collected locally. Apparently Baron had lived for a year or so in Mendocino before moving to Navarro in 1876. The four letters are dated 7 April, 9 July, 6 August, and 9 November, respectively.

Only two items are preserved from 1878, a letter dated 3 March and a postcard dated 27 March. On the latter Baron noted "I have received the Butterflies from Mr. W. H. Edwards, sent to you for me. Thanks to the careful packing they arrived in excellent condition, not one antennae being broken." In W. H. Edwards' manuscript Journal "F" for 1876 there is this note on p. 240 "Oscar T. Baron, Mendocino Mill, Mend<sup>o</sup>. Cal<sup>a</sup>. change to Navarro Mills." On pp. 237-238 in Journal "G" Edwards noted that he had received "about 2 dozen [chrysalids of *Mel. Baroni*] from Baron May 18, 1879." I could find no account in Edwards' Journals of the butterflies he sent to Baron. Probably they were material that had been submitted for determination.

The year 1879 produced a long array of letters, sixteen in all. Baron continued to live in Navarro until April when he set out on a collecting trip, the first real one that he made. He announced this in a letter of 14 March, "Things with me are very disagreeable and I intend to leave Navarro very soon, and shall spend the summer traveling in California, and, of course, collect as I go along. I intend to do some hard work. My plan is to get a horse and a very light wagon and start about Apr. 15th, when the roads begin to get into order again, and travel through Mendocino and the neighboring counties." This letter also announced to Henry Edwards that a box containing about 300 specimens was to be shipped to him for sale in the East. Along with the moths, Baron had included "12 *Chionobas Iduna* ♂ and ♀, some *Argynnis* & approx. 12 pair *Melitaea quino*, a few *N. menapia*, etc." The specimens had been captured during the summer of 1878, probably at no great distance from Navarro. While away on his collecting trip Baron had arranged to have W. G. W. Harford (42 Market Street, San Francisco) act as a mail drop for pack-

ages being shipped from the East. There is a suggestion in the wording of this that Harford was in some way connected with the mills at Mendocino and Navarro.

On 13 April 1879, Baron wrote from Mendocino. Apparently he had started his trek. The next letter is undated but can be placed here by its content. He was at the "Headwaters of Big river, Mendocino, County." By 15 June he had reached "Camp Cache Creek, Lake Co." May had been rainy and Baron had had little success. On 23 May he took a pair of *Papilio indra* on "Mt. St. Hydrian" [Mt. Sanhedrin?—about 20 miles NE of Willits] in Mendocino County. He also wrote that mail would catch up with him at Newville, Tehama County [now Glenn Co.] and that he hoped to ship a box of 1,000 specimens from Red Bluff. A postcard from Red Bluff on 30 June told Edwards that the box had gone off by Wells & Fargo, and "I am going into Trinity Co. next." By 18 August Baron was in Middletown, at the south end of Lake County. He wrote "I have also 4 pairs of *Argynnis*, a very large species, the ♀ of which is on the upper side deep brown and yellow. I shall also send you a pair of them." Strecker's plate misled Baron and he thought he had taken *nokomis*. W. H. Edwards set him straight on this, his capture had been *leto*. Baron had gotten as far as Trinity County "but had to return on account of rheumatism." He stayed at Middletown until the end of August, then moved on to Calistoga in the northwestern corner of Napa County, from where he sent a postcard on 15 September.

On 24 September Baron wrote from Mendocino "As you see I have returned from my tripp [sic!] and I must say, with tolerable good catch for the season although the weather had been very much against me from the start. Did not get any *Chionobas* and only seen one ♂. . . . Now I am able to explain why I did not hear so long from you. Mr. W. H. Edwards writes me that you had a serious fall in the White Mountains. I hope, however, that you are well again." The letter of 2 October 1879 opens "Just returned from a weeks tripp [sic!] to the headwaters of Big river. . . ." On the 15th of the month Baron shipped Henry Edwards three boxes of specimens from his summer catch, one for Edwards and the other two to be sold. On the 25th he noted that he had sent a shipment to W. H. Edwards from the summer catch. I could find no reference to these in Edwards' manuscript journals. Among others, Baron shipped specimens to James Bailey, Albany, N. Y., and Graef and Neumoegen in New York City.

There is a letter from Mendocino, dated 27 September without a year date. On content I place it in 1880. In it he told Edwards of plans to go south as far as San Diego in October. He planned again to use horse

and light wagon. There are no letters in the Henry Edwards correspondence to verify the trip but there are in the Strecker correspondence. The last dated letter in the Edwards series was written from "Santa Margarita Cañon, Oct. 23rd 1881" when Baron was working as a location engineer for the California Southern Rail Road Company.

Baron's letter of 7 February 1879, written from Navarro, contains this interesting item: "I have also been successful in preventing moths from getting oily by filled their abdomen with soapstone. Even the *Hepiolas* [sic!] and *Sesia*, so treated, did not turn oily, and I consider the former as one of the insects most difficult to keep without getting oily. It takes pains, but with a case of rare specimens it pays for the trouble." This may be a clue to some Baron specimens.

#### THE STRECKER CORRESPONDENCE

The material in the Strecker collection begins with a letter dated 17 September 1879, from Mendocino. Thus it overlaps a little the Henry Edwards material. The last letter to Strecker is dated 20 January 1893, from San Francisco. During much of the time covered by this correspondence Baron was working in various engineering capacities for one or another of several railroads building lines in California and eastward from that State. He had little time for collecting insects, but he did collect some. In the period spanned by the letters Baron made two trips out of the country. In 1885 he was in Mexico and the only letter from this trip is in the Strecker material. In 1889–1891 he was in Ecuador and letters from there are found only in the Koebele correspondence. As did all professional collectors who sold material to Strecker, Baron has his difficulties with Strecker renegeing on contracts.

The only thing new that is found in the letters to Strecker written in 1879 is that the *Argynnis leto* specimens had been taken in "Lake Co. Cal during the month of July last." Baron stayed in Mendocino during the winter. On 2 February 1880, he wrote to Strecker "I have sold all specimens I collected last season to Mr. N [Neumoegen] excepting some *Catocalae* now with Mr. W. H. Edwards for sale . . . I shall start on a collecting trip at the end of this month." On 23 February he set a date for departure, 29 February, with his first objective the town of Ukiah, the county seat. According to a letter of 7 March written from Ukiah he "caught the first specimens of lepidoptera today—*Anthocharis rearkiry* [sic!]." On 28 March he was in Cloverdale, Sonoma County, and stayed in that area at least until 14 May when he wrote "I have collected very little and I am disgusted with the weather we are having. Even yesterday it was raining but looks like a change today. Usually *Chionobas*

Iduna comes in the end of April and May. I could see now yet traveling 130 miles where they can be found. Of *Colias Eurydice* I have a few pairs and also 3 specimens of *Anth. lanceolata*."

From Cloverdale Baron headed north for *iduna*. On 2 July he wrote from Cold Valley (postmarked Glenbrook) "Since I wrote last I succeeded to get 2 promised ♀♀ *Chionobas Iduna* and one more if you want it and also a nice row of ♂♂. I could not possibly part with the ♂ specimens for less than 75 cents per good specimen and the ♀♀ at \$1.00. The expenses has been so much to collect them. . . . Now I am taking some *Argynnis Laura* and *Zerene* ♂ & ♀ and hope to find *Leto*." He also collected some *Colias chrysomelas*, 30 *Hepialus* but only 3 *Melitaea Baroni* and a few male *Papilio indra*. Of the last Baron said "This is a rare species and very hard to get. I traveled on foot in one day 27 miles and climbed about 3500 feet, part of that 3 times and only captured 3 males, one very poor."

By 3 August Baron was in Middletown, Lake County. (The letter is dated from Mendocino but postmarked Middletown. Fortunately Strecker preserved all letters in their envelopes.) In this letter he told Strecker "The *Melitaea Baroni* I did not get at all this season, all the caterpillars which I collected died and it has been foggy on the coast during my stay there for the butterfly. . . . I did not get the two species of *Hesperia* which are quite local and found within 2 miles of Mendocino on account of fogg [sic!] while there." A letter dated 28 August 1880 written from Glenbrook, but postmarked Middletown, contained a price list.

By 16 September Baron was at home in Mendocino. From there he dispatched material to Strecker. He also said "I do not think that I shall collect any more this season as it will take me a month of travel to get to Lower [southern] Cal." He left Mendocino some time after 16 October and was at Santa Barbara on 7 November. From there he moved to San Bernardino, writing on the 16th "I have come here, a new field, but do not know how much I will be able to do in Entomology, being offered a position which i [sic!] do not feel justified to reject." This was with a surveying party of the California Southern Rail Road Company.

Apparently Strecker wrote to Baron one of his typical letters belittling all other lepidopterists. On 12 December Baron replied from San Diego "After what you have told me about N. [Neumoegen] I shall sent you *all* varieties I may get in the future, not because Mr. N. did not treat me well, far from it, but, as you say, you study Lep. and not take it up as a mere notion. . . . Since my arrival I have seen 4 species of Lepidoptera, much worn, which I never caught before. One of them is,

I think, *L. Cythera* illustrated in Capt. Wheeler's Reports. The locality is very nice here, a valley surrounded by high mountains, the highest Peak of which is 12,000 feet. A good field for collecting." In a later letter, 8 January 1881, Baron located San Dieguito as being five miles northwest of San Diego. [It sounds as though Baron was in the San Bernardino Mountains, rather than near San Diego.]

During 1881 Baron traveled extensively in southern California and was busy with railroading. He did collect a few specimens here and there. The engineering office for the railroad was in San Bernardino. Baron was there on 9 May. A few days later, 12 May, he was in Santa Margarita Cañon. The letter was posted at San Luis Rey. On 21 June he was at Cajon Pass. A letter sent from San Luis Rey on the 6th of November included "I intend to send you a few things I have collected, among them some very nice things." A few days later from Santa Margarita Cañon he wrote "I shall send you some of the little *Lyceana Regia*." In December he returned to San Bernardino and joined the engineering crew of another railroad. For them he went to Aptos and wrote on 17 December "I am locating a short piece of road for a broad gage [sic!] Railroad." He stayed there until the end of January.

1882 was another year of moving about on survey crews. Baron wrote from San Bernardino on the 14th of March "The most of my *Catocalae* has been caught in Lake Co. but many of them came from Sonoma and Mendocino Counties (the counties join each other.) . . . I have met Mr. W. G. Wright and he told me you correspond with him." From the Mojave Desert he wrote on 7 April "About 3 weeks ago I have seen Mr. Wright of San Bernardino and gave him all information about collecting and preserving Lepidoptera I know and it remains with him if he will succeed or not." Letters in the Wright collection belonging to the Pacific Coast Entomological Society show that he started on his long career as a lepidopterist at this time. Wright had sent butterflies to W. E. Edwards for identification on 8 January 1882.

In June Baron was sent to the San Francisco office of the railroad. On the 7th of the month he complained "This season seems already spoiled for my collecting as I have to stay in the office and work up my notes." On 22 July he was at Duncan's Mills in Sonoma County, apparently on company business. With the cool of the autumn Baron was back on the desert. He wrote from "End of track, Mojave Extension S. P. R. R." on 22 October about *Papilio indra* "I have no specimens and don't know anyone who could get them. I only know Dr. Behr but he is no collector, and has not collected for many years. He is the only man I ever speak German with or drink beer 'Old Style.'"

In February, 1883 Baron was in Mendocino and shipped material to Strecker. At that time he did not know what he would do during the summer. By 16 March he was in Monterey, railroading again. He stayed there into the summer, at least to the end of July. On the 26th of that month he wrote "Please address my letters after the receipt of this to San Francisco, O.T. Baron, California Academy of Sciences, cor. California and Dupont St., San Francisco." Baron had been planning for some years to visit his old home in Germany. On 5 September he wrote from San Francisco "Shall be at Reading [Pennsylvania, Strecker's home] shortly after the 15th the month."

Baron returned from Germany early in 1884. In Germany he had seen Dr. Staudinger and in New York had become acquainted with the people who had been buying his collections. On 12 April he wrote to Strecker using California Academy of Sciences letterhead. He said "I find business in engineering very dull and I shall have to do something outside of that. . . . B. Neumoegen . . . advised me to go to Mexico south of the City of Mexico, saying that very few good specimens have come from that section. . . . My address for the future will be 'O. T. Baron, California Academy of Sciences, P. O. Box 2247, San Francisco, Cal.'" Baron took to the field in May. He wrote from Baird, Shasta County, on the 1st of June "Shall be in the vicinity of Mt. Shasta for about 10 days. Up to this time I have taken very nice specimens but nothing new. . . . Now I intend to go to Mexico as soon as I return from this collecting trip."

Baron went to Mexico. The only letter that I have seen written by him from there is one from Chilpancingo, Guerrero, dated 10 December 1885. There is nothing in it about Baron's collecting experiences in Mexico. It was written in response to a letter from Strecker who wanted to settle his long outstanding account with Baron for about 35¢ on the dollar. Baron demanded that all of the material he had sent be returned. There is a long hiatus in the correspondence between the two from this point on. It was not until Baron returned from Ecuador in 1891 that the two exchanged letters again.

#### KOEBELE'S LETTER-BOOK

How long Baron remained in Mexico and when he returned to California are questions for which I have found no answers. The source for information about Baron after he returned from Mexico and while he was in Ecuador is the letter-book of Albert Koebele, California's premier economic entomologist, who was a close friend of Baron. Upon his return from Mexico, Baron again turned to railroad engineering for a

living. He managed to do more entomological work along with his rail-roading than he previously had done. The first evidence of his return is a letter from San Buenaventura in southern California, dated 20 February 1887, in which he counsels Koebele about making up a shipment destined for Berthold Neumoegen, "So far as the shipment of Lepidoptera to B. N. is concerned we can put in from 12 to 20 specimens of a species as he wants duplicates to send somewhere. . . . The commission from this first shipment you can take out of the first money that may come in and take as much as you think fair on both sides." This appears to establish a partnership between Baron and Koebele that continued until Baron had returned from his trip to South America.

Sometime in the winter of 1887–1888 Baron and his crew of engineers set up camp at Pantano, Pima County, Arizona, about 30 miles southeast of Tucson. The first letter from Pantano is dated 28 February 1888. At that time Baron was raising "Sat. Galbini"—*Agapema galbina* Clements—in great numbers. Koebele's father was with Baron at this camp. He probably helped with the rearing. Ultimately Baron shipped over 3,000 cocoons to Koebele. In his letter of 5 June he noted that butterflies were beginning to fly and that he was looking forward to the rains which he hoped would bring out the spring flight. By the 15th of the month—the last letter from Pantano—the camp was coming to a close and Baron was not sure what he would do when that happened. In addition to moths he collected some butterflies and butterfly eggs for W. H. Edwards. Edwards' manuscript Journal for 1888 ("R") notes on p. 33 "June 10 . . . Also 1 or 2 larvae of *A. sara* from Koebele, Alameda Cal<sup>a</sup>. He sent 43 eggs 4th, but the plant was wilted and only 2 l. to be found." Baron suggested to Koebele that Edwards be charged \$5.00 for these eggs. On the 19th of June ("R," pp. 36–37) Edwards made this entry "Rec<sup>d</sup> from O. T. Baron eggs of a new species *Neonympha* allied to *Eurytis* at Pantano, Ariz<sup>a</sup>. I once had this species from the Wheeler Expeditions but it was lost by fire in Express car at Washington before I had named or described it. I call this *N. Pantano*. One larva was out & looked like a young *Eurytis*." By the 22nd Edwards recognized that the insect was *rubricata* Edwards, now called subspecies *cheneyorum* Chermock. The larvae seemed unable to pass the first molt.

A postcard written 26 July 1888, from Berryville P.O., Siskiyou Co., California announced "I arrived here today and did not stay over at the upper Soda Spring as originally expected. . . . Have probably 25 ♂ & 12 ♀ *Argynnis Leto* and some other species of *Argynnis* and a few *Satyrus*. Cant go to high altitude until next week." On 24 January 1889, Baron wrote to Strecker from Alameda, California, "Have just



returned from Mendocino Co. a few days ago, and at once determined to go to Costa Rica on the steamer of 25th (tomorrow.) Have made arrangements to proceed to Panama if I change my mind and go to S.A. instead."

The next letter preserved was sent to Koebele in Australia and details the difficulty Baron had getting the third lot of *Vedalia cardinalis* (Mulsant) through the Customs Office in San Francisco. In it Baron wrote "Shall leave for Ecuador Febr. 2nd and return—who knows?" This was sent from Alameda on 30 January 1889.

There are seven letters in the Koebele letter-book written from Ecuador. They bear dates running from 24 October 1889 to 11 October 1890. Probably Baron arrived in Guayaquil, Ecuador, early in March, 1889. He did a little collecting on the Pacific Slope but soon after his arrival in the country he moved into the southern part on the Atlantic Slope. His letter of 24 October was written from Loja. He had made two sorties into the Oriente by that time, having just returned from his second trip when he wrote the letter. Just where in the Zamora watershed he had collected on his first trip is not stated. His headquarters on the second was at Zamora. At the time this letter was written Baron had collected between ten and eleven thousand Lepidoptera, four or five thousand beetles, and 700 hummingbirds.

Not all of the letters that Baron wrote from Ecuador are preserved. Some apparently were lost in the mails, others definitely had been received by Koebele but are missing from the letter-book. On the 26th of January, 1890, Baron was on the Rio Pescado. He had arrived there about the middle of the month and planned to stay until the middle of March. His camp was at an elevation of about 2,500 feet. He planned at this time to make two additional trips into the Oriente, one to Sig Sig and the other to Canelos. After his return from the Rio Pescado Baron changed his headquarters to Cuenca from where he wrote on 12 June. In this letter he said "Your letter of March 1st received while on the way from Gualaquiza to Cuenca about 4 weeks ago. I did not get here until a few days ago having remained in the great heights, say 11,000–12,000 feet, 2 days from here." Baron occupied his high camp for three weeks, the last of a seven-week trip. "Gualaquiza is in the hot East and 5 days S.E. from Cuenca and although it is in the same river system of Zamora I got but few Leps during my 14 days stay there."

For his trip to Chimborazo and into the Oriente of the Rio Pastaza Baron made temporary headquarters in Riobamba. He wrote from there on 27 June that the only butterflies he found at high altitude were

“a small *Colias*, a *Pieris* [*Tatochila*] and one or two more” and that the moths collected seemed similar to those from California. From a stay of several months’ duration in the high mountains in 1938–1939 I can agree with Baron that collecting lepidoptera above 11,000 feet in Ecuador is hard work for few specimens. On 1 July Baron wrote from Riobamba that “Day after tomorrow will go to Baños and below, or where ever I can get butterflies.” On 18 September he returned from the Oriente of the Rio Pastaza without getting as far east as Canelos, in fact it seems that he did not go much farther east than the Rio Mapoto. I wrote to Sra. Rosario Velástigui de Lefebre, an old friend who had collected with me in 1938–1939, about Baron. She replied to my inquiry that her father, José Elias Velástigui, had accompanied Baron and that they had worked their way down the Rio Pastaza, following its banks, as far as Hacienda San Francisco on the Rio Mapoto. Sr. Velástigui not only had accompanied Baron but later was Haensch’s companion in the same region and still later taught Macintyre the tricks of professional entomological collecting. His daughter, Sra. Lefebre, and his son Elias continue in the family tradition. Baron’s next sortie was to Chimborazo to collect hummingbirds.

The last of the Ecuadorian letters was written from Riobamba on 11 October. Baron had just returned from Chimborazo with 180 hummingbirds that he had collected in three weeks. The next day he was off to Altar, a huge volcanic mountain to the east of Riobamba and across the inter-Andean valley from Chimborazo. From there he planned to return to Cuenca, settle his accounts, and start for home. In an earlier letter he had planned to spend some time collecting the lower slopes of the mountains on the Pacific side of the range. Apparently this did not take place.

In a letter to Strecker dated 8 February 1891, from Alameda, California, he said “At last I am home again after two years trip to Ecuador.” There is a penciled note of Strecker’s on this letter “If you want me to I will give you names of your butterflies and moths, and as I have said, between myself and a friend will be likely to make a reasonable purchase.” Baron went back to railroading. He stayed with this employment until he returned to Germany early in 1893.

Three letters from 1892 in the Strecker collection tell of working on the Ecuadorian material. “During the long evenings in December, Jan. & February I managed to spread a few thousand of Ecuadorian Leps and Mr. Koebele, who has not yet returned from Australia, spread a thousand or two before leaving for that continent. . . . Not a specimen of the Mexican Leps has gone out yet excepting the first shipment

to B. Neumoegen 4 years ago and not a specimen of the Ecuadorians has gone out to date. . . . Should everything go as planned my next trip will be to Costa Rica in April 93." These are quoted from a letter of 25 February 1892 when Baron was living in Fresno, California. On 16 May he wrote from there that "In my spare time I am beginning to set up my cabinet of Hummingbirds of which I now have 120 species and I propose to make it a unique collection."

In November, 1892 Strecker inquired about purchasing Baron's collection. In reply Baron wrote from San Francisco on the 2nd of December "You have asked me the price of the entire collection and to this let me give you the following as answer:

There are probably 14–15,000 from S. A.	
	6,000 " Mexico
	6,000 " California

or say between 27,000 and 30,000. 10% are probably poor specimens. My price for the entire lot is \$4,000.00 Cash." Nothing came of this. On 20 January 1893 Baron wrote to Strecker from San Francisco "I am going to Mendocino tomorrow and will make you a shipment of Lepidoptera." This is the most recent letter of Baron that I have read. Sometime in 1893 he returned to Germany, where according to Meissner he established an apiary. For the last 30 years of his life he lived in Ober-Glogau. He had sold a large part of his collection in England en route to Germany but retained about 100 "Schaukästen" (glass-topped drawers ?) of American butterflies for his own collection.

I recall working 30-odd years ago with some material from Gualaquiza, Zamora, and other Ecuadorian localities visited by Baron. Some of this was in the British Museum and some of it in the Staudinger Collection in Berlin. Unfortunately my notes do not state the collector. Perhaps it had been Baron. Some of the specimens that Baron shipped to Strecker are in the Chicago Natural History Museum, those that remain of Neumoegen's collection are in the United States National Museum and Henry Edwards specimens from Baron are in the American Museum of Natural History. There are many specimens in the W. H. Edwards collection at the Carnegie Museum that bear on their labels "O.T.B." in Edwards' handwriting testifying to their origin.

At least some of Baron's hummingbirds were sold to Lord Rothschild and now are in the collections at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Mr. Charles E. O'Brien, assistant curator of the department of ornithology, showed some of them to me. They are beautifully prepared. Later Mr. O'Brien, who had read a draft of this manuscript, wrote to me "On page 12 it is stated that Baron re-

turned to Germany in 1893 and spent the last 30 years there. However, we have many specimens here acquired from the Rothschild Collection bearing labels (not the printed Rothschild label) listing O. T. Baron as the collector in Peru within the dates August 1894–June 1895.” Thus it appears that Baron made at least one more collecting trip to South America after his move from California to Germany. Whether or not he collected insects on the Peruvian trip I do not know.

This account of O. T. Baron could not have been prepared without the friendly assistance of Dr. Rupert Wenzel of the Chicago Natural History Museum, Dr. George Goodwin, Jr., librarian, and Mr. O'Brien of the American Museum of Natural History, and particularly Dr. C. Don MacNeill and Mr. Hugh B. Leech of the California Academy of Sciences.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- CARPENTER, M. M., 1953. Bibliography of biographies of entomologists. (Supplement.) *The American Midland Naturalist*, 50: 257–348.
- ESSIG, E. O., 1931. *A History of Entomology*. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1029 pp.
- MEISSENER, O., 1929. Oscar Theodor Baron. *Entomologische Zeitschrift* (Frankfurt), 43: 131.

---

#### BOOK NOTICE

A REVISION OF THE GENERA *MELANOLOPHIA*, *PHEROTESIA*, AND *MELANOTESIA* (Lepidoptera, Geometridae). By Frederick H. Rindge. *Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 126(3):241–434, text figs. 1–163, plates 3–9. 18 Feb. 1964. Paper, \$4.50.

This is an evaluation of taxonomic relationships among members of three closely related genera of Ennominae. Aspects of their phylogeny, distribution, and taxonomy are discussed, in addition to presentation of keys, descriptions, and figures of genitalia and uppersides of the moths. In the work, 112 specific and subspecific names are recognized; 59 of them are proposed as new. Nearly all are Neotropical, largely centered in the highlands zone of South America. The new genus *Melanotesia* is proposed for two species, *siderata* Dognin and *intensa* Dognin, both of which occur in the Andes Mountains.—EDITOR.

COLOURED ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE BUTTERFLIES OF JAPAN. By Mitsuo Yokoyama (revised by Teiso Esaki). [In Japanese], 153 pp., 71 colored plates, several distribution maps. Enlarged edition. Published by Hoikusha, 20, 1-Chome Uchikyuhoji-Machi, Higashiku, Osaka, Japan. Price in Japan, 1400 yen (about \$4).

This is essentially the book that was published in 1955 which was reviewed by Dr. Harry K. Clench in *The Lepidopterists' News*, 12:56:1958, with an addition, dated 1961, consisting of 17 pages of text and 8 plates. This addition describes and figures 22 species not in the 1955 edition. The text is in Japanese but the scientific names are latinized and there is a latinized index.—E. J. NEWCOMER.