PAPILIO AJAX, VAR. MARCELLUS, IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

I have lately received from Mr. C. De Blois Green a painting, natural size, of a butterfly which is undoubtedly *P. Ajax*, VAR. *Marcellus*. Mr. Burton, the captor, took the specimen on the Cowichan River, near Duncan's, in Vancouver Island, where he spends part of every summer fishing. It was upon one of these expeditions that the specimen referred to was taken, and another one was seen during the same summer, but not secured. The painting which was afterwards made by his wife is well done, and there is no doubt at all about the species. Mr. Burton formerly collected insects in England, but has not exchanged with anyone in the United States, or even had a collection in his possession for many years. There is hardly a possibility, therefore, that any mistake has been made as to the actual locality where this specimen was caught.

A point of considerable interest is, What was the food plant of the larvæ of these butterflies? The Papaw, which is, as far as I know, the only food plant, does not grow in British Columbia, nor, as far as I am aware, further west than Nebraska.

I shall be obliged if any reader of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST can give any further information on the food plants of this species, or suggest any probable food plant upon the Pacific coast.

J. FLETCHER.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW PSILOPA.

BY. D. W. COQUILLET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Psilopa petrolei, new species.

Black, polished, not light coloured, pruinose except the lower part of the occiput, cheeks and sides of face, which are thinly grayish pruinose; halteres yellowish, the knobs white. Eyes densely hairy, most approximate at middle of face. Third joint of antennæ slightly longer than the second, the spine of the latter not reaching beyond the apex of the antennæ. Wings hyaline, tinged with gray on nearly the costal half, except sometimes a spot toward apex of the submarginal cell; apex of second vein nearly twice as far from the first as from the apex of the third vein. Length, 2 mm.

Described from eight specimens reared from larvæ living in crude petroleum near Los Angeles, Cal.

Type No. 4,100, U. S. N. M. This description is published at the request of Dr. L. O. Howard, who has prepared an article on the habits of the insect.