

the subapical curve, but only a trace, and no others with even a trace of the basal dash. Expanse 1.35 inches.

Described from one ♀ taken here.

NOTES ON "THE TORTRICIDÆ, TINEIDÆ AND PTEROPHORIDÆ OF SOUTH AFRICA, LORD WALSLINGHAM, M.A., F.Z.S.," &c.

BY C. H. FERNALD.

The above is the title of an interesting paper by Lord Walsingham on some of the microlepidoptera of South Africa, published in the Transactions of the Entomological Society, 1881, Part II., with four uncolored plates.

I do not feel competent to review this valuable paper, since most of the species are entirely unknown to me, but I wish to express the opinion that his Lordship has done a most praiseworthy work in clearing up the synonymy of the various writers on the micros of South Africa.

Lord W. found a single female in this collection, which agreed with the description of *Eccopsis Wahlbergiana* Zell., the types of which are in the museum at Stockholm. The genus *Eccopsis* was established by Prof. Zeller in 1852, for the reception of this species. In 1859, Lederer, in his classification of the *Tortricidæ* of Europe put the well known European species *latifasciana* Haw., into the genus *Eccopsis*, and this had been followed by later German writers down to the year 1875, when Zeller published his work on the *Tortricidæ* of North America, in which he expresses a doubt whether *latifasciana* is congeneric with his *Wahlbergiana*. Clemens had previously (1860) established his genus *Exartema* for *nitidana* and several other species, but in 1865 he suppressed this genus and put the species at first placed in it, in the genus *Sericoris*. Zeller, in the paper above referred to, revived the genus *Exartema* of Clemens and restored the species formerly placed in it, with some which he described as new. Zeller's original description of the genus *Eccopsis*, while agreeing with *Exartema* in general, did not mention the remarkable appendage near the anal angle of the hind wing of the male, and he did not think it possible that he could have overlooked it when he was characterizing his genus *Eccopsis* if it had really been present. Lord Walsingham has taken the trouble to determine the fact that such an appendage exists, and publishes a sketch of the hind wing of *E. Wahlbergiana*, made by Mr. C. Aurivillius, assistant in the Entomological Department of the State Museum at Stockholm, where the types are preserved. This sketch shows the venation and the characteristic appendage at the anal angle of the hind wing. The form of the anal angle beyond the appendage is subject to some variation among the American species, but the sketch of *Wahlbergiana* agrees very closely with *Eccopsis Footiana*, and differs but little from *nitidana*, the type of Clemens' genus *Exartema*.

From the North American species now before me I am sure

we cannot regard a certain amount of variation in the form of the wing, of generic value. I believe then that we are justified in regarding Clemens' genus *Exartema* equivalent to *Eccopsis* of Zeller, and our species should be referred to the latter genus.

NOTES ON SOME NORTH AMERICAN LEPIDOPTERA.

By ARTHUR G. BUTLER, British Museum.

GEOMETRITES.

It appears to me that no group of moths has got into greater confusion than the *Geometrites*, and I strongly suspect that the principal cause must be sought for in the want of definition in this part of the work undertaken by M. Guenée; whether that eminent Lepidopterist was in a hurry to get through his work, or whether the publisher worried him, I do not care to inquire, but he certainly failed to distinguish between reliable and variable characters; and, worse than that, he failed to separate the species before him into natural groups; by this I mean to say that having characterized a genus as possessing primaries with the outer margin angulated, M. Guenée was as likely as not to place in it half a dozen species not possessing that character; whereas, according to description, he ought to have placed them in a succeeding genus.

As this uncertainty in the outline of species primarily referred to a genus has led to different authors forming entirely dissimilar views in accordance with the named types in their collections, the evil has naturally increased tenfold since the publication of M. Guenée's work, and the consequence has been a great multiplication of synonyms.

The following Geometrites have been sent to us by Mr. H. Edwards:

ENNOMIDÆ.

EUTRAPELA FALCATA. Packard.

Two examples exhibiting different color variation from the Sierra Nevada. The genus is confounded with *Chærodes*, *C. transferens* of Walker being the same as *E. clemataria*, a blunder due to the vague description,—“*les premières à apex aigu et à bord terminal droit ou coudé en angle sur la 2,*” a door being thus opened for the introduction by M. Guenée and all subsequent authors, of species utterly unlike in outline of wing.

OPISTHOGRAPTIS SULPHURARIA. Packard.

Two examples from California: it comes near to nothing in the museum series.

“ENDROPIA MADUSARIA. Walker.”

The species sent under this name seems to me to be the *E. effectaria* of Packard's Monograph; it certainly is not Walker's species (which seems to me to be the same as that figured by Packard), but comes nearer to *E. pectinaria*, *tigrinaria*, *astylusaria* and *propriaria* of Walker's list.



Fernald, C. H. 1881. "Notes on the Tortricidae, Tineidae and Pterophoridae of South Africa, Lord Walsingham [Review]." *Papilio* 1(11), 219–220.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/39681>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/314727>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.