

NOTES AND QUERIES.

GNOPHÆLA ARIZONA.—Some time last year I received several specimens of a *Gnophæla*, from H. K. Morrison, collected in Arizona, that seemed to be different from anything catalogued in "Grote's New Check List." After some hesitation I described it under the above name, and sent the description to PAPILIO, but fearing there might be something I had overlooked, I sent Mr. Henry Edwards a specimen with the request that if he recognized it as already described to suppress my description. After some hesitation he wrote me he thought it *G. Hopfferi* var. *Discreta*, Stretch. I had the description of this form but it not being in the Check List I had overlooked it. Accordingly my specimens were marked *Discreta*. Upon receipt of the January number of PAPILIO I found it contained my description of *G. Arizona*. Feeling that this was a mistake arising from the transfer of papers to the present editor at the beginning of the year, I wrote Mr. Stretch the circumstances and sent him a specimen. He writes me that the specimen sent is his var. *Discreta*. *Gnophæla Arizona*, French, will be known then as a synonym of *G. Hopfferi* var. *Discreta*, Stretch.

As to the varietal or specific position of this form I am inclined to think that under the present acceptance of the term it will rank as a species. I have had eight specimens and Mr. Stretch writes he has "now seen four specimens and they are all alike". If on the border lands, where this form and *Hopfferi* and *Vermiculata* occur, they breed as constant to type as they do in the part of *Arizona* from which these were taken, then, according to usage, they would take rank as a species unless proved to be otherwise by breeding.

G. H. FRENCH.

EDITOR PAPILIO.—Dear Sir:—In your notice of my *Satyrus* paper there is one sentence which calls for an explanation on my part; that is, in reference to my supposed uncertainty of the terms to be applied to various forms—*incana* in particular. By transposing the reference to Mr. Edwards' description of the larva to the end of the next paragraph, and thus making it form the concluding sentence of my remarks on *Alope*, it will not conflict with what I had previously stated, and will mean what I had intended it should mean—i.e., that Mr. Edwards had described the larva of *Alope* and some of its varieties. I never was guilty of considering *incana* a good species. In reference to the unfortunate typographical errors, I will say that I was in Washington while the paper was being printed; saw only part of the proof myself, and depended upon others to see that the corrections were made.

JOHN B. SMITH.

EDITOR PAPILIO:—While recently examining a large number of old cocoons of *Samia Columbia* I was surprised to find that nearly all of them contained cocoons of *Ophion macrurum*. I believe this insect has never before been observed as a parasite of *Columbia*, although known to infest many other of the larger *Bombycidæ*. Out of about fifty *Columbia* cocoons thirty contained *Ophion* pupæ. Nearly all of the latter had died while pupæ, probably because of the presence of a parasite upon them.

CLARENCE M. WEED.

UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE.—Mr. Charles A. Blake tells me that on the 25th of January last, a specimen of *Hyphena baltimoralis*, Guén., was found on the wing, and settling from time to time on the ice, in the neighborhood of Gray's Ferry Philadelphia. This is the more remarkable, as the thermometer that day registered 4° below zero. Are any of this genus known to hibernate? EDITOR.



Murray-Aaron, Eugene. 1884. "Unusual occurrence." *Papilio* 4(5/6), 112–112.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/39770>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/318315>

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>.