

- b. Walker's cunea "was doubtless punctatissima" (Lyman, p. 121, May number).
2. a. Drury's cunea has the back and abdomen ash-colour. (Drury's description).
- b. "There is no doubt of the identity of cunea and punctatissima" (Riley and Smith).
3. a. Drury's figure shows a white abdomen. (Lyman, p. 128, May number).
- b. "There can be no manner of doubt of Drury's figure. It represents the spotted form of *Hyphantria*". (Dyar, p. 16, January number)

No difficulty whatever is made of the logical conclusions that the abdomen of *punctatissima* is *yellowish, white at the edges and towards the tip*; that it is *ash-colour*; and furthermore, that it is *white*. But when I described the Quebec insect as having an abdomen *yellow* ("yellowish"), *white at the edges and towards the tip*, why then "the description of the abdomen at the last resort was conclusive" (Dyar). Conclusive of what? That Dr. Fyles was in "error" (Lyman). The description should be back and abdomen ash-colour.

However, the difficulty as to the abdomen in the case of *cunea* can be easily cleared up by a comparison with *congrua*.

Last year I sent a specimen of *congrua* to Washington. When it left me the insect had an abdomen pure white. When it came back to me, the abdomen was ash-coloured. The long fluffy feathers had been shaken off, and only a slight down remained. Other moths of the batch to which this belonged are losing their white clothing. One has the white in patches only, both on the back and the abdomen.

So also as regards my specimens of *S. cunea*, Drury. The male has been to London, Ont., and back (1,200 miles), and has now an ash-coloured abdomen. The female that I mentioned in my first paper still answers to Walker's description. A second female taken by Edgar Walters at Bourg Louis has been less disturbed, and has more white and less yellow on the abdomen. All these specimens were somewhat worn when they were taken, and I think it very probable that originally they had white abdomens, as the specimens of *congrua* had. The abdominal scales and feathers are alike in both insects.

Lest the readers of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST should be misled by Mr. Lyman's words, "I can see no resemblance beyond the most superficial between his specimen and Drury's figure," I beg to state that Mr. Lyman has never had my specimen in his possession.