

The author, date and original place of publication are given for every genus and species. Great care has been taken by the writer to examine, where possible, the types, and indication is given where these may be found. Published references are cited separately under the name of the species and the synonyms. Under the head of Habitat, Dr. Smith gives the distribution as far as known to him. Most references, however, to the 3,456,542 square miles of territory which are officially recognized as the Dominion of Canada (exclusive of Labrador and Newfoundland) are covered by the one word "Canada." This shows that few of our Canadian collectors have availed themselves of the generous offer made by Dr. Smith as advertised in all the Entomological Magazines, namely, that "he will name and return all material of this family sent to him, for the privilege of retaining such specimens as may be needed for description or for completing the collection of the United States National Museum."

As the author of the Catalogue has in preparation a Monograph of the whole of this family of moths, it is to be hoped that Canadian Entomologists will do all they can to assist him by sending him liberal supplies of material. The tendency of some to lock up in private collections rare and interesting specimens is much to be regretted. It is far better to send them to a specialist for study and subsequent deposition in a public museum where they will be not only of scientific value, but also available for study by others, and will have much greater chance of being preserved. The personal possession of rare or even unique specimens is after all a very small pleasure compared with that of knowing that they are in a place where they can be of use to many, and where the best care will be taken of them.

The large number of species included in the Noctuidæ, the close similarity between many of these, and on the other hand the wide variations which sometimes occur in the different specimens even of the same brood, make the study of this family very difficult. For this reason Dr. Smith's Catalogue will be gladly welcomed by Lepidopterists. It is a wonderful book and throws a flood of light on what was a hopeless chaos of impenetrable disorder.—J. F.