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ABOUT NAMES.

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I have read, as all of us have, the review of a book by C. J. Maynard, on our Butterflies, by Mr. W. H. Edwards, and which appeared in the February number of the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST. Whatever Mr. Edwards writes is trenchant and to the point, so that we have received the impression that Mr. Maynard's book is really not what it ought to be, is not up to current scientific knowledge, and is inferior in its illustrations. There is no more to be said about the book on this head; its publication will probably do very little real good, except perhaps that here and there a reader into whose hands it may chance to fall may have his interest excited in the subject, and so be led to buy a better one, as, for instance, that of Prof. French, to say nothing of Mr. Edwards's splendid volumes. But I was interested in Mr. Edwards's remarks about the names of butterflies, in which the critic leaves his prey to "regret to say that Mr. Scudder is our greatest sinner in this respect" (p. 39). Mr. Scudder, who never defends himself, might well need a champion as far as I understand the average opinion of students. I am all unworthy to assume such a rôle, and am not at all called upon to do so, nevertheless as what I have to say is rather in mitigation of his offence, I must be regarded somewhat in that light. And first, we are all sinners, miserable sinners, as the Church puts into our proper confession, but I doubt if it is right for us to apply the word *inter nos*. There has been quite a shower of adjectives unenlivened by wit, as well as of censure unredeemed by humor, and often unexcused by candor, in our entomological press, and to this I have, in my humble way, quite strongly objected. We are not authorized by our positions to assume so much, nor is our subject sufficiently important, as the world goes, to warrant the issue of ukases upon entomological topics. The particular offence of Mr. Scudder in the matter of names is that of the English ones. Now English names for insects existed before Latin ones, as might indeed be