

belongs to the thing to which it is assigned, and cannot be emended on account of some error connected with its formation. The decision that caconyms shall not be emended does not imply that the rule that names should have a respectable Latin form is not a good one, or that authors need not exercise any care about their construction. One who holds that caconyms should not be emended, ought to be careful not to oppress biological nomenclature with linguistic monstrosities. While I have tried to avoid making caconyms, I believe that they should be emended, and that some day they will be. Scientific minds do not have any particular reverence for the opinions of their predecessors, particularly the dogmatic ones, and some day the name-sharps will have little to do but emend caconyms. Take the case of *Xenos*--Rossi, Kirby, Hoeven, Saunders, Pierce; *Xenus*--Rye, Cent. Dictionary, Stiles. Pierce says *Xenos* is from $\xi\nu\sigma$ or $\xi\nu\sigma$. So *Xenos* seems to be a caconym for *Xenus* or *Xinus*. Pierce decides that it should not be emended. When he decides that it should be imitated it is another matter, but a rather usual and not unnatural consequence of the rule against emendation. Saunders had previously invented *Paraxenos* and *Pseudoxenos*. Pierce adds *Halictoxenos*, *Leionotoxenos* and *Vespaxenos*. He says the latter is derived from *Vespa* and *Xenos*. Since one word is Latin, it does not seem necessary to insist on a Greek ending for the compound. *Vespaxenos* looks like a caconym for *Vespixenus*.

One objection to caconyms is that they lead to personal reflections. One may be very careless in his name-making and very careful in his other biological work, but some people may not think so.

A NEW GEOMETRID GENUS AND NEW SPECIES FROM THE EXTREME SOUTH-WEST.

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Several years ago, through the generosity of Dr. John B. Smith, I received a box of Geometrid specimens, collected in the Arizona Desert, near Yuma, and at Walters' Station, Calif. It was not difficult to find names for most of these, but the following species have given me some trouble, since this region might well be supposed to harbour occasional Mexican forms. Having this in mind, I have waited an opportunity to study the Schaus collection at Washington, which did not occur until April of this year. In it, so far as I could discover, in all too brief an examination, there is no genus or species to represent one at least of them,

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