

PROF. J. B. SMITH'S LIST OF LEPIDOPTERA.

BY G. H. FRENCH, CARBONDALE, ILL

While I recognize the fact that each one of us has a right to make lists of insects to suit himself, and others are not obliged to follow them, errors of identity are not a matter of opinion, and are therefore subject to criticism. With this view I wish to point out a few errors in the genus *Catocala* in Prof. John B. Smith's new "List of Lepidoptera." First, var. *Virens*, French, is not a variety of *Cordelia*, Hy. Edw., but of *Amasia*; and *Cordelia* is not the one figured by Dr. Strecker, pl. 9, f. 12. My examples of *Cordelia* were identified by the author of the species. Second, there is no good reason for separating the two forms of *Retecta*. I have taken hundreds of them; they fly at the same time and behave alike in the woods, and grade into each other. *Flebilis* is not a variety of *Retecta*, but an insect of very different habits. Dr. Strecker's figure, so often referred to, pl. 9, f. 4, is not *Flebilis*, but a small form of *Desperata*. I had an example from Dr. Strecker, and have bred it from *Desperata* eggs. I cannot regard *Ulatume* as a variety of *Lacrymosa*, as they have very different habits in the woods, as well as the differences of size and markings that are seen in the insects in cabinets. I have taken all the named forms of *Lacrymosa*, as well as numerous intergrades; have taken quite a number of examples of *Ulatume*, but no intergrades with any form of *Lacrymosa*.

THE LARVA OF ANCERYX FASCIATA, SWAINS.

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In July, 1891, Mr. I. I. Bowrey gave me a sphingid larva, about to pupate, which I described as follows:—

Larva.—Chærocampa-like, ground colour pale ochreous, sides immaculate. Dorsal region (sharply defined from sides) dark, from a close, fine black marbling or mottling, which tends to run in anteroposterior lines. A band-like process of this marbling enters the side area on each segment, obliquely projecting towards, but hardly reaching the spiracle.

Underneath the larva is more or less mottled, and there is a narrow black ventral line. Abdominal legs dark. Thoracic legs rather pale. Anterior part of fourth segment above heavily marked with black. Head pale, with a dark brown band down each side of the face. Caudal horn small and pale.

Food-plant.—*Carica papaya*, Linn. (West Indian Papaw.)

Hab.—Kingston, Jamaica.

The imago emerged Aug. 7th, and proved to be *Anceryx fasciata*.

The present larva differs appreciably from that of *A. edwardsii*, Butl., as described by Mr. Hy. Edwards in *Entom. Amer.* III., p. 165. So far as the larval characters go, *Anceryx* and *Dilophonota* (whether regarded as two genera or one) seem to belong rather to the Chærocampinæ than the Sphinginæ, with which they are placed in Prof. J. B. Smith's new list. The moths, also, while coloured like Sphinginæ, have a somewhat Chærocampa-like build.