

The references to literature, ancient and modern, seem to leave nothing more to be desired in this respect ; in fact, the amount of labour performed and research that has been made seems almost appalling, and we wonder whether the author has the strength and endurance to carry such an undertaking through to completion.

This work may well be taken as a model by one who is less experienced, provided he does not follow it too closely and thus destroy his own originality of thought and plan.

Under each superfamily is given a very complete history of the classifications of the different authors. These are carefully discussed, and when the author differs from others, he does not hesitate to express his convictions.

Many of our old familiar names have disappeared, and are to be found only among the tail-feathers of synonymy. This is, however, strictly in accordance with the law of priority, and if any of us feel unreconciled to this, we may well ask ourselves whether we are to keep up with the trend of modern scientific thought or fall by the way.

Under each species is given the synonymy and references to literature, so full and complete that we can hardly imagine anything of importance to have been overlooked. Then follows the original description in the language in which it was published, and this is followed by the author's description of the imago. There is then given a full account of sexual dimorphism and gynandromorphism, more than five pages being devoted to gynandromorphous examples of *Amorpha populi*, L. Variation is also taken up very fully with all the forms described and named, and this requires seven pages for *A. populi* alone. A complete account is given of the time, place and manner in which the eggs are laid, followed by a full description of the egg, the larva in each "stadium," and variations of the larva, pupation and cocoon, pupa, food-plants, parasites, habitats, time and place of appearance and distribution.

While this work must prove indispensable to the entomologist who desires full information on the Lepidoptera of the British Isles, it will be exceedingly valuable to students of the Lepidoptera in the United States and elsewhere, because of the exhaustive study of the literature of the genera and higher groups, and the careful and conscientious manner in which the author applies the laws of nomenclature.—C. H. FERNALD.