

with vinous-red costa." This does not quite tally with Hampson's *saucia*, though I have Calgary specimens fitting both. Tutt gives the original Latin description of Haworth's *margaritosa*, which was described as a distinct species. The colour description reads "*alis grises cinereis nebulosis*," which Tutt sounds right in translating "wings gray, clouded with ashy," but which is again at variance with Hampson's general description and sounds more like his *saucia*. I have a Calgary specimen which fits it beautifully. In addition to these, our species varies through many shades of gray, ochreous brown and vinous red; and specimens may be very uniform, or have the costal region either much the palest, or much the darkest part of the wing, or with various mixtures of shades. The way the names stand in our lists suggests either that *saucia* is the North American form of *margaritosa*, or that it is a well marked extreme form occurring with us as well as the type, whereas it merely represents one phase, and a by no means striking one, of a long range of variation. It is inexplicable why *saucia* should be retained in our lists as a variety, whilst such strikingly unlike forms of *ochrogaster* as *gularis*, *turris*, and *insignata* (as instances amongst many), be passed as mere synonyms.

202. *Noctua baja* Fabr.—This species is listed as *smithii* Snellen, in Prof. Smith's Check List, 1903, on the authority of Snellen, whom I also followed. It was claimed by its author that our North American form had spined fore tibiae, whereas that occurring in Europe, although superficially almost exactly like ours, had not. (Smith, in Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc. VI, 99, 1898). Dr. Dyar erred in omitting any reference to *baja* whatever in listing our species as *smithii* in his Catalogue. But in the Kaslo List he restores the old name, remarking: "An examination of European specimens shows them to have several distinct spines toward the tip of the member, well hidden in the vestiture." I have lately carefully examined fourteen British specimens of *baja*, and find spines on the inside tibiae of seven. In a few of these I can find a single spine only, just at the tip; in others there are three or four, rather obvious. As a rule the vestiture on tibiae of my British specimens seems rather thicker than in most of the North American series, but not constantly so. Whether spines are merely concealed or absent from the rest I cannot say. The fore tibiae of most of my native *baja* are not in a position to permit of careful examination, but spines appear to be rather obvious in most of those that are, in varying numbers up to five. In one, at least, in which the tibiae are well