

thoroughly correctly named collection of the natural habitations is more instructive than all the pictures or descriptions, however faithful or accurate they may be. Every species of insect has a peculiar mode of working in its early stages, and there is a kind of non-deviation in the work which a practical eye can trace, and say: "I can name the genus or species which produced that." I am fully aware that every Entomologist will not coincide with me, nor acknowledge that all Lepidopterous insects belonging to any certain genus produce cocoons of almost similar form, but I believe they do; and without dwelling on the reason or specific causes for recently transferring the following insects to distinct genera, suffice it to say that they were at one time included under one genus. I will now state why I should separate them on the structural dissimilarity of their cocoons, for on examining them and comparing them we discover a decided difference in their forms, that is to say, the cocoon of *Attacus cecropia* is greatly different from that of *A. polyphemus*, and the cocoon of *A. luna* is to a certain degree not like the latter, while that of *A. prometha* is always differently situated and formed from any of the former. To more fully strengthen my argument that almost all species of Lepidoptera copy each other, in the formation of the coverings made by the larva, I may mention that a cocoon found by me at Québec, and which, from its likeness to that of *Cecropia*, I took to be that insect, was afterwards brought home by Mr. Bowles, and in due time produced *Samia Columbia*, a new species described by Mr. S. J. Smith in 1865. I could also give similar instances in the great family of *Hymenoptera*, but I shall leave any further remarks for another paper.

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#### NOTES ON LEPIDOPTEROUS LARVÆ.

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##### NOCTUA CLANDESTINA (*Drury*).

Young specimens of the larva of this species were found last year, about half grown, under chips and logs in open fields early in May. They had evidently wintered in the larval state, and had but lately aroused from their winter's sleep. No description of the larva was taken until May 25th, when it was full grown.

Length 1.25 inch, cylindrical.

Head: medium sized, flattened, black, with two diverging whitish lines