

A SUGGESTION AS TO THE IDENTITY OF CYCNIA DUBIA, WALKER.

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In Vol. XXII., p. 120, of CAN. ENT., Prof. Smith calls attention to the fact that the above name awaits identification, and says: "There should be no difficulty in identifying this species, should it turn up." The moth was described by Walker as *Cycnia*, referred by Grote and Robinson to *Phragmatobia*, and lastly by Kirby to *Estigmene* (= *Leucarctia*). It has occurred to me that this form has already been turned up, and by Mr. Bruce, as described in Entom. Amer., Vol. III., p. 140, where it was shown to be a form of *Spilosoma virginica*. Compare the following descriptions:—

1. By Walker. "Female. Pale brown. Antennæ and legs with whitish tomentum. Thorax fawn colour, whitish behind. Abdomen somewhat ferruginous, with three stripes of black spots. Wings with two oblique, incomplete, indistinct, brown bands, composed of blackish spots. Forewings with whitish veins. Length of body, 5 lines; of wings, 16 lines. Hudson's Bay."

2. By G. & R. "Wings semi-translucent, brown or mouse colour; veins on both wings whitish above; eyes margined narrowly with white; legs shaded with whitish outwardly; abdomen with three rows of brown spots."

3. By Bruce. "Head, body and legs sooty brown, small black dorsal spots on body; all the wings brownish mouse colour. The veins on forewings distinctly white."

Mr. Bruce adds:—"If my friend had not preserved the eggs, and I had not reared the larvæ, this would certainly have been named as a new species, and would have been a standing puzzle to entomologists." If my surmise be correct, this has taken place.

C. dubia may be provisionally referred as follows:—

SPILOSOMA VIRGINICA, Fabr.

var. DUBIA, Walk.

1856—Walk., C. B. Mus., III., 682, *Cycnia*.

1868—G. & R., Tr. Am. Ent., Sc., II., 72, *Phragmatobia*.

1887—Bruce, Ent. Amer., III., 140, *Spilosoma*.

1890—Smith, CAN. ENT., XXII., 120, *Phragmatobia*.

1892—Kirby, Cat. Lep. Het., I., 227, *Estigmene*.