

pose, and for my own use, after using a sufficient number and in various conditions for generic and specific diagnosis, I have contented myself with keeping a few, not *packed* in cotton, but simply laid on a loose tuft of cotton, in a pill box, which being set away in the cabinet, the insect remains as perfect as when first placed there. Such specimens, if needed for future observation, I take by the legs in the stage forceps of the microscope, and they are in good condition for observation either under the microscope or without it, as they may by means of the forceps be conveniently turned and handled without danger of breaking them, and every part of the insect may be well observed unless—as sometimes happens—the wings are so perfectly closed as to conceal the upper surface of the abdomen. But these are simply specimens preserved for future reference. A few specimens of *very* rare species I have not attempted to pin and set because of the danger of injury to such rare species. A few others of the smallest species (as e. g., some *Nepticulæ*) I have treated in the same way, because of the certainty of injury, if not of absolute destruction, in the attempt to pin them. But in other cases my descriptions have been prepared from observations of numerous specimens in various conditions as to preparation. I have found the species which I have described from this locality very numerous, so that a morning's ramble any day from May 1st to November 1st will supply me with specimens of fifty species, and half a bushel of mined leaves. I have, therefore, not felt the necessity of preserving pinned specimens of such species. Indeed, some years ago I seldom took the trouble to pin and spread common species at all. In a series of specimens the wings of some would be found in one position, some in another, or more frequently I would separate the wings entirely from the body. But a few years ago I began to make a collection to be preserved as types of all my species. These were all pinned and spread. Unfortunately, during my absence in Colorado, the greater part of this collection was destroyed. One or more specimens of the greater number of species were fortunately preserved, and most of the other species can be supplied. This collection is now in the Cambridge Museum. It contains types—pinned and spread—of something over 200 species.

There are, however, serious objections to pinning and spreading many Tineina. Very few persons are able to make a good "mount" of the small species; it is well nigh impossible to do it without *some* denudation, and an amount of it which could not be appreciated in a larger moth, is ruinous in one of these little things. Many species are characterized by