

process to get rid of the *Dermestes*. This has no doubt happened in the case of the specimen marked *Agrotis ordinata* that you refer to.

"Where the specimen agrees with Walker's printed description, it is either a type or corresponds closely to his type—perhaps examined at, or nearly at the same time. * * * My first acquaintance with Walker was in 1863 when I spent some time in London. I was in England during the greater part of '63 and '64. I used frequently to go to the Brit. Museum, and struck up a great friendship with W., which continued to his death. We corresponded regularly, and he sent me his publications and quantities of European and other insects, for which I made the best return I could. He was one of the quietest and gentlest of men; his sensitive nature was much pained by some of the harsh and rough criticisms that were passed upon his work. His mistake was in attempting too much. Had he confined himself to the Diptera, his reputation would probably never have been impaired."

At my request Dr. Bethune kindly gave me permission to deposit these specimens in the U. S. National Museum at Washington when I had examined them, and there they now are, accessible to all students who may desire to verify my conclusions.

Nine species only are described by Walker as "In Rev. Mr. Bethune's collection," but a number of others are given as from West Canada, and sometimes they are said to come from Mr. Bethune.

Of these nine species eight are represented in the specimens before me, one only, *Agrotis vetusta*, is wanting. With the exception of the specimen labelled "*Agrotis ordinata*," all are evidently the types, agreeing in sex and in all other points with the description. In *Agrotis ordinata* I cannot accept the labelled specimen as type, though it agrees in at least one important feature—the sex.

The few specimens which are not types, are in many instances erroneously named—provided that the species we know under Walker's names are really his species.

In detail the specimens before me are as follows:—

Mamestra insulsa, Walk., C. B. M., Lep. Het. IX., 234, 1856.

An imperfect specimen; but not the type. It is *Hadena ducta*, Grt., (Bull. U. S. Geol. Surv., IV., 176, 1878). The type is in the British Museum and has been examined by Mr. Grote who said first it was an *Hadena*, and afterwards that it was an *Agrotis* allied to *repentis* (*Carnades messoria*). Walker's description applies perfectly to the specimen