

A. NEW NOCTUID GENUS.

BY WM. BARNES, M.D., AND J. MCDUNNOUGH, PH.D., DECATUR, ILL.

The publication by Dr. Skinner (Ent. News, 1902, XIII; 141) of the species *Psychophora fasciata*, from Alaska, evoked considerable discussion at the time regarding the position of the species (whether a Noctuid or Geometrid), and also concerning the genus *Psychophora* Kirby and its type *sabini* Kirby (Ent. News, 1902 XIII, 191; l. c. 1903, XIV, 193). In the latter paper Dr. Dyar, in the belief that *fasciata* corresponds closely to the generic characters given for *Psychophora*, leaves the species along with *sabini* in that genus, and creates the genus *Skinneria* for *frigidaria* Gn., which he considered wrongly associated with *sabini* Kirby.

In the 4th Volume of Seitz Macrolepidoptera Palæarctica (Geometridæ) Mr. Prout (p. 232) sinks *Skinneria* to *Psychophora*, placing *frigidaria* Gn. in this genus. In reply to a query of ours regarding this action, he has kindly replied that there is a series of specimens under the name *sabini* in the British Museum from Grinnell Land, which "agree so perfectly with Curtis (and well with Kirby) that one cannot hesitate as to the rightness of their determination, especially as the localities are in the same main geographical region, and there is no knowledge of any rival claimant from thence." He further states that *frigidaria* Gn. from Norway, Lapland, etc., "seems evidently a mere local race of *sabini*," but that *phocata* Moesch, according to the figure, is a distinct but closely allied species. All these species he considers to be typical Larentiids. Regarding *fasciata* Skin. he was unable to speak definitely, as he had no material of this species.

The above remarks led us to examine more closely our specimens of *fasciata*, of which we have four ♂'s from the type locality, two of them being co-types. We find that Dr. Dyar in his otherwise excellent characterization of the generic characters of *fasciata* (Ent. News XIV, 194) has overlooked the fact that the mid and hind tibiæ are *well spined*. This fact would almost with certainty prove the species to be a Noctuid, and it would fall into the family *Agrotina* of Hampson, which reference would be further supported by other structural characters, notably the obsolescence of vein 5 on the secondaries from near the middle of the cell. With regard