

ON DR. WM. DIETZ'S REVISION OF THE TINEIDÆ
(HEINEMANN).

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The long-expected paper by Dr. Wm Dietz, entitled: "Revision of the Tineid Subfamilies, *Amydriina* and *Tineina*, inhabiting North America,"¹ appeared during the writer's absence in Europe, and a subsequent summer's expedition to the West Indies made it impossible to give this important contribution to the knowledge of our American Tineidæ the attention it deserved before early this year. Since then I have gone carefully over all Dr. Dietz's material with him in his hospitable home in Hazelton, Pa., and have had another fruitful sojourn with him in my own home, which has resulted in complete agreement between us on nearly every point of difference in opinion which had arisen during my studies of his paper. Thus I am very gratified that the following corrections of that paper (with a few minor exceptions specially noted) are all seconded by Dr. Dietz, who has shown during our sometimes quite animated discussion a rare scientific spirit in the effort to get at the true facts, regardless of his expressed opinions, which cannot be too highly commended; in fact, Dr. Dietz might as well have published the following notes himself, but has preferred that I should do it.

Dr. Dietz deserves very much credit for his painstaking work, which is one of the largest and most important single contributions ever published on our American Microlepidoptera, and which deals with one of the most difficult groups.

When in the following remarks I mainly give attention to the mistakes in the paper, it is not for lack of appreciation of the good work done or of the many difficulties conquered; but the mistakes should, of course, be corrected; these arise mainly from the lack of sufficient material, and are quite excusable, considering Dr. Dietz's disadvantages in working away from the type collections, and without an adequate library.

One very serious drawback to the paper, which Dr. Dietz cannot be held responsible for, is the fearful amount of typographical errors, worse than in any scientific paper I have met with, which cause much annoyance in study, and result in several unintentional additions to the synonymy.

Dr. Dietz's paper covers a group of moths, which may be shortly defined by our popular name for the paper, "Tinea and allies," and which is equivalent to Heinemann's old family *Tineidæ*; but the limits are rather

1. Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc. Phil., XXXI, pp. 1-95, 1905.
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