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NOTES ON SOME SPECIES OF NOCTUIDÆ DESCRIBED BY FRANCIS WALKER.

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In Vol. XXXII. and XXXIII. of the list of Lepidoptera Heterocera in the British Museum, Mr. Walker described some species from "West Canada, in the Rev. Mr. Bethune's collection." No records of specimens in the Museum are given, and the descriptions are of specimens apparently returned to the collector. On the chance of these specimens being still in existence I wrote Dr. Bethune, begging him for such assistance and information as was in his power to afford. He very kindly responded, saying, "I shall send you by mail to-morrow a box containing the few specimens that I have left that were named for me by the late F. Walker. The labels on them are mostly in his own hand-writing. When I came here in 1870 I had no room for my cabinet and was obliged to store it away in a dark place for some years. I was also so very hard worked, building up this school, etc., that I was unable even to look at my specimens. Consequently the *Dermestes* got in and destroyed a large number—especially those set low down—that were my first captures, and that Walker had named. Thus many of his types had perished. I do not think it matters very much, as the descriptions and identifications were often so unsatisfactory. After seeing what I send you, you might *abolish* all the others that are stated to be in my collection, because they are no longer in existence and cannot be identified."

The box came duly to hand, and as the specimens gave rise to some doubt, and I desired to fully establish the value of the labels, I again wrote Dr. Bethune, and he replied :

"I have been unable to find any more records regarding my 'Walker insects.' The *printed* labels and numbers on those I sent you were put on by myself—the *written* ones are Walker's. It is of course quite possible that some of them got transposed, as they have been changed from one cabinet to another, and had also to go through a severe disinfecting