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A NEW GORTYNA, AND NOTES ON THE GENUS.

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I use the name *Gortyna* in preference to *Hydracia* as, without pretending to be an authority upon the question, it appears to me that there is better authority for the former, as used by Mr. Grote, than for the latter. My acquaintance with the moths of this genus, which I have always admired, dates back about thirty years, but in spite of that length of time my knowledge of them up till last year was of the most meagre description, and apart from the species which has stood so long in our collections under the name *Nictitans*, and a few specimens of *Velata*, Walk., I only possessed about half a dozen specimens, mostly in poor condition, representing *Immanis*, *Stramentosa*, *Rigida*, *Nebris*, *Rutila*,* and a form which Mr. Bird believes to be new.

It may be of some interest to point out that the specimen of *Rigida* referred to was taken by me probably between 1873 and 1875, and was lent, among other specimens, for the Society's exhibit at the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, in 1876, and was returned to me under the name *Purpurifascia*, *Rigida* not having been described till the following year. For some reason which I cannot understand, the two forms *Nitela* and *Nebris* have, since the issue of Grote's Check List of 1882, stood in our catalogues under the specific name *Nitela* and the varietal name *Nebris*. If the *Nitela* form were the prevailing one, with the form *Nebris* much less frequent, the position thus given them would be quite natural, but if, as I understand is the case, the two forms occur in practically equal numbers, the name *Nebris* should take precedence as

*There is some uncertainty as to whether this form is the true *Rutila*.