

ON DIADEMA MISIPPUS, LINN, IN FLORIDA.

BY W. H. EDWARDS, COALBURGH, W. VA.

About the middle of last November Miss Annie M. Wittfeld, whose untimely death I have spoken of elsewhere, wrote me that she had taken a butterfly of a species which she had never seen before, while it was laying eggs on purslane. She confined the butterfly with the plant and obtained 74 eggs. It was like a *Danaïs*, she said, but the caterpillars were like a *Vanessa*. I wrote her it probably was *Misippus*, a single male of which Dr. Wittfeld had taken several years before. The female of this species is entirely unlike the male in colour and markings, and really imitates a pale *Danaïs*. Meanwhile eggs and larvæ at every moult were put in alcohol for me, and after my letter was received Miss Wittfeld inflated two mature larvæ, and with all these stages sent me living pupæ, so that I shall be able to illustrate the history of this curious butterfly. This was the last thing Miss Wittfeld did for me, and is an example of the intelligent and painstaking work she was accustomed to.

Misippus is a common species in south-eastern Asia, in Australia, Africa, in parts of South America, and is found in some of the West India Islands. Drury figured the male, and gave New York as one of the localities, but, except these few Florida examples, I know nothing of the occurrence of the species within the United States. As the food plant is everywhere one of the commonest of weeds, it is not improbable that from Florida *Misippus* may spread northward.

In *Papilio* 1, p. 30, I mentioned the capture of the male spoken of under the name *D. Bolina*, Linn. *Bolina* is an allied but distinct species. The one taken in Florida is *MISIPPUS*.

SOME NEW NOCTUIDÆ.

BY A. R. GROTE, A. M., BREMEN, GERMANY.

Agrotis agilis, n. s.

Two males in good condition received from Mr. James Fletcher, from Vancouver, belong to a decidedly different species from my *semiclarata*, Essay, Plate 1, Fig 9, though allied, as also to Californian *gravis*, and our Eastern *venerabilis*. Antennæ brush-like. Gray, with a brown tinge. Lines obliterate. Fore wings yellowish gray fuscous, brownish, with a red