

which Mr. Lyman has never seen; and this description was made by Grote from two of Walker's types which he saw and handled, and which bore Walker's own identification marks; and Messrs. Dyar and Beutenmuller have declared the moths, raised as above mentioned, to be identical with *S. antigone*, Strecker; and Walker's name of the species has the priority. What more would Mr. Lyman have? Does he think we should be any better off if he himself had seen Walker's types and described them?

#### II.—Concerning Riley's theory.

I may truly say that I was an entomologist before Mr. Lyman was born, and it seems to me "only the other day" that Prof. Riley propounded his theory that "many names," of which he instanced four, viz., *cunea*, Drury; *textor*, Harris; *punctata*, Fitch, and *punctatissima*, S. & A., were merely synonyms—the first of the four having the priority. Up to that time no one had thought of calling the moth from our Northern Fall Web-worm anything but *textor*. Walsh and Riley so designated it in Vols. I. and II. of the "*American Entomologist*"; so did Packard in his "Guide" — my copy is one of the 7th edition, published in 1883; and Saunders, in his "Insects Injurious to Fruits," published in the same year.

Riley had done good work as an entomologist, and men were disposed to accept his teaching without question. Dr. Smith adopted it, and "Smith's List" has been the guide of our younger entomologists. Hence the use of *cunea* to designate the moths from Fall Web-worms.

But I maintain that when I spoke of *Bombyx cunea*, Drury, no one had a right to assume that I meant something else—that I meant (to adopt Dr. Dyar's formula) *cunea*, Riley (nec Drury).

If no one till now has questioned the identity of *cunea*, Drury, and *punctatissima*, S. & A., it has been because no one has had the reason for questioning it that now exists, viz., the discovery of an insect that more closely answers to Drury's figure and description than *punctatissima* does.

Whether *Hyphantria punctatissima*, S. & A., and *H. textor*, Harris, are identical or not can be easily proved by our Southern entomologists. They have only to breed carefully from eggs of each sort to determine the matter. It will be "too ridiculous" if it should prove that in this respect also we have been misled by Riley—that after all there is but one brood of *textor* in the season, and but one brood of *punctatissima*, and