

of authors whose systems were rejected in their own day, and whose generic creations were ignored not only by contemporaries, but for generations afterwards, cannot properly be appealed to. If there was injustice done to them it is too late to remedy it, and justice at this late day means injustice to those in present possession, and whose title often has the strength of nearly a century's undisputed possession. We cannot judge of the circumstances that influenced the contemporaries of such authors, and with the views prevailing at the time, their judgment was right. Therefore, when Schrank, and Hubner and others, are sought to be reinstated, and a host of generic names set aside, the later injustice is worse than the first,—if there was any first, and of that we have no knowledge. Otherwise, fifty years hence a system or a genus proposed by an author of to-day, though rejected by every naturalist living, for defects that appeal to the sense of each one of them, may be reinstated in spite of such contemporary judgment.

It has become more and more the practice, for twenty years past, to ignore all genera created since Hubner, and to replace subsequent names by names taken from that author, who published a Catalogue of Lepidoptera, in which nearly every species stands by itself, in a division that, whatever it may be called, is not generic. Of course it is easy to apply one of his names to every genus that can be now created. By his contemporaries, and for a generation after his works were published, his fanciful divisions and fanciful names were rejected, and it is only of late years that some authors have discovered that in his works is a mine of wealth.

But on this head it is sufficient to give the words of an Entomologist whose authority is second to none. I quote from the annual Address (1871) to the Lond. Ent. Soc., by Mr. Alfred R. Wallace, President of the Society, and I quote at some length, as it seems to me desirable that American Lepidopterists should be made aware that Hubner's claims are not yet everywhere acknowledged:—"By far the most important and most numerous alterations are caused by adopting the names of an author who has long been purposely ignored as an authority for genera both by English and Continental Lepidopterists. I of course allude to Hubner."

"Such old names as Chionobas, Agraulis, Eresia, Godartia, Adolias, Polyommatus, Leptalis, Terias, Callidryas, Thestias, Anthocaris, with many more, are changed for others to be found in no other work than Hubner's obsolete and useless Catalogue. Yet this wholesale change