

All the others, such as *Thor*, *Menetriesii*, etc., are but varieties or aberrants. It would be easy to make fifty such species of *Smintheus* alone, if you took them at various altitudes and locations. Some butterflies, as, for instance, *Papilio Turnus*, of which I have great giants from North Carolina, Georgia, etc., expanding $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, while others from the White Mountains spread only $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and there are all sorts of shades of yellow, orange, brown and black, and yet who would think of making a dozen species of these? I notice that Mr. W. H. Edwards includes *Par. Nomion* in our fauna. I think somehow he must be mistaken, unless possibly it was caught in Alaska."

HERMAN STRECKER."

Feeling sure that the above letter will be of interest to many of our readers, I have obtained Dr. Strecker's permission to publish it.

JAMES FLETCHER, Ottawa.

UNIDENTIFIED BOMBYCIDS.

SIR,—Messrs. Dyar and Neumoegen have struck a snag in their work, according to their statement in CAN. ENT. for May, 1893. I am glad that I am able to help them over one part of it. Of the "unidentified names," *Saligena personata* has been long since referred as a synonym of *Raphia frater*, and I am able to confirm the correctness of the reference. So *Edema obliqua* has been proved a noctuid, and an *Arzama*. As *Sphidia* or *Arzama obliquata*, it is a well-known insect. Messrs. Neumoegen and Dyar are following Mr. Kirby's use of generic terms very closely. It would be a matter of some interest if they would inform us whether, in the case of Hübner's *Tentamen*, they have independently concluded that it should be adopted, or whether they simply follow Mr. Kirby without original investigation. So few of the working entomologists have accepted the *Tentamen* as authority, that it is not impertinent to ask why they have joined the minority.

JOHN B. SMITH.

PROF. C. H. TYLER TOWNSEND

has been appointed Curator of the Museum at the Institute of Jamaica, in place of Mr. T. D. A. Cockerell, who has recently resigned on account of ill-health. Mr. Townsend's address is now Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies. We wish him much success and prosperity in his new position, and trust that he will continue to favour us with his valuable communications.

Mailed June 12th.