

ON CERTAIN IDENTIFICATIONS IN THE GENUS
ACRONYCTA.

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Prof. Smith has been to London, and now radically changes the synonymy in the genus *Acronycta*, which I had hoped was to have been finally settled in the revision which was published by him and myself. The changes involve the identification of three of Guenée's species and one of Walker's. As to *impleta*, Walk., we must accept Smith's identification as *luteicoma*, G. & R. I would suggest that the type ought now to be destroyed, lest future changes in the synonymy result. Guenée described eighteen species of *Acronycta* from North America, of which the larvæ of six were mentioned. In a genus like *Acronycta*, where the imagoes are so similar as not to be readily differentiated by description, while the larvæ are very diverse, the larval descriptions are relatively important. Of the three species now changed (*clarescens*, Gn.; *hamamelis*, Gn.; *brumosa*, Gn.), two have original larval descriptions. As to *clarescens* I have no comment, especially as Grote's first identification is now restored. But the others are different. *Hamamelis*, formerly referred to an oak-feeding species (*inclara*, Smith), is now transferred to *afflicta*, Grt. But Guenée's description contradicts *afflicta* in the colour of the hind wings, whereas it fits well the species named *subochrea* by Grote, better even than it fits *inclara*, and to this the larva also applies. As to *brumosa*, Smith says (Revision, p. 118) "the original description will fit either one of two or three species." The characterization of the larva should then be allowed to prevail and the name be referred to *inclara*.

I do not think that Guenée's types should be exclusively considered. Smith remarks (CAN. ENT., XXXII., 335) that *hamamelis*, Gn., is the same as *brumosa*, var. b; but Guenée described no variety b. So it is not unlikely that there has been some mixture of or addition to Guenée's types during the fifty years since they were described. I am, therefore, inclined to the following synonymy:

<i>Brumosa</i> , Guen.	<i>Hamamelis</i> , Guen.
<i>inclara</i> , Smith.	<i>subochrea</i> , Grt.

Afflicta and *persuasa* will remain good species as formerly, and thus two of Prof. Smith's changes can be avoided.