

I now come to the consideration of the word Typical. This naturally means agreeing with the type, but what type? The author's type from which he described the species, or a specimen agreeing with the general average of the species in nature? Surely it should be used in the latter sense, which is the common every-day sense of the term. Some species have unfortunately been described from aberrant specimens, but it is surely absurd to call an aberrant specimen typical of the species?

In 1863 Grote described in the Proc. Ent. Soc. Phil., a species of Tiger moth under the name *Arctia Anna*, the hind wings and abdomen being entirely black. Three months later he described in the same volume what he considered to be another species, under the name *Arctia Persephone*, in which the hind wings were yellow, with black markings, both specimens having been received from the same collector. Later it was found that they were only varieties of the same species, and though *Anna* is very rare, that name is given to the species, while *Persephone*, the common form, which probably outnumbers the *Anna* form fifty to one, is classed as a variety. Surely that is unnatural and ridiculous?

What difference could it make to Mr. Grote's credit whether we write

<i>Arctia Anna</i> , Grote,	<i>Arctia Persephone</i> , Grote,
var. <i>Persephone</i> , Grote, or	var. <i>Anna</i> , Grote?

While the first represents a foolish worship of the Law of Priority, the second shows the true relationship in Nature. Even had they been described by different authors, I would follow the same practice, as it would make no difference to the authors, while it would make the nomenclature agree with nature.

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### NEW AND LITTLE KNOWN BEES.

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The genus *Nomia* doubtless originated in the Old World, where it is abundant and varied. In America it has few species, though one (*N. jenseni*, Friese) exists as far south as the Argentine. The genus may perhaps have reached America about the same time (and doubtless by the same route) as the Elephantidæ.

*Nomia ekuivensis*, sp. nov.

♂.—Length about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  mm., anterior wing 6; black, with a strongly clavate abdomen; pubescence dull white (not at all fulvous or yellow);

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