

accept all of the new genera which Prof. Smith has recently proposed in his revision of the old genus *Agrotis*. While I am a thorough believer in the value of sexual characters in the classification of the Noctuids, I should hesitate to establish genera upon them without first examining other than our own fauna. In a recent study of the genus *Drasteria* I found that all of the known species in our fauna had decidedly asymmetrical male genitalia, while the species in the allied genera *Euclidia* and *Caenurgia* had not; nor had this peculiarity been noticed in any other Noctuids. Although none but American forms have been placed in *Drasteria*, I am sure that at least one of the common European Euclidias belongs to it, but I am not yet sure that this European species does not have symmetrical male genitalia.

While it is true that Walker insufficiently characterized his genus *Feltia*, yet the description of a species—*duccens*—made it a valid generic title; and as *duccens* is a synonym of *subgothica*, Prof. Smith had a right to recognize *Feltia*. But Mr. Grote now claims (in his List for 1895) that *Feltia* must fall as a synonym of Hübner's genus *Agronoma*. Hübner placed four European species in the genus, and Mr. Grote thinks the type species is *valligera* (*vestigialis*). Now, if it can be shown that *subgothica* is congeneric with the European *valligera*, and both Stephens and Guenée mention a resemblance, then Mr. Grote is right in placing *Feltia* in the synonymy. Mr. Grote gives *Agronoma* only subgeneric rank. I prefer to leave the discussion of this point to Messrs. Grote and Smith; it will require a more critical study and comparison of the American and European species than has yet been made before the question can be settled. -

In the light of our present knowledge, I prefer to continue to use the name *Agrotis subgothica*, Haw., which has become so familiar to American entomologists from its frequent use in both our systematic and economic publications.

*Agrotis murænula.*

In his last revision of the Agrotids (Bull. 44, U. S. Nat. Mus., p. 85) Prof. Smith placed *murænula*, G. & R., in the synonymy of *vetusta*, Walk. This called forth the following protest from Mr. Grote under the above heading (CAN. ENT., XXVI., 81): "Two species, properly referred by me at the time to *Agrotis*, were described by Walker under the same specific name *vetusta*. One of these turns out to be, as I had suggested in my essay, *murænula*, G. & R., and this latter name, I claim.