

CORRESPONDENCE.

HEPIALUS 4-GUTTATUS.

Sir: The statement on page 125 of CAN. ENT. for May, that *4-guttatus* is a synonym of the typical *argenteomaculatus*, is incorrect. The type form of the latter is the smaller not pinkish form, and is the *argenteomaculata* of the Reports on Ins. Inj. to Vegetation. The form *4-guttatus* is apparently that figured in "Lake Superior" by Agassiz. So far as I am able to judge from the short description, in which the colour seems to coincide with *4-guttatus*, the writers have apparently redescribed my *4-guttatus*.

A. R. GROTE.

ARGYNNIS ASTARTE.

Sir: It may interest your readers to know that *Argynnis astarte* (= *Victoria*, W. H. Edw., CAN. ENT., XXIII, 198, *vide* Strecker, Ent. News, Nov., 1892, p. 218) Double-Hew., which was rediscovered last year by Mr. Bean in the Rocky Mountains near Laggan, is, as far as I can judge from the single specimen he has been good enough to send me, a very near ally, and perhaps not separable from *A. amphilochus* of Menetries, a species which appears to be either very rare or very local near the head waters of the Amur river in Siberia. My specimen is smaller and paler than *Amphilochus*, but every marking seems to be identical in position. It is quite probable that when the northern extension of the Rocky Mountains has been explored, this species will be found at lower elevations, as I learn from Mr. Bean that he took it at 8,500 feet.

W. J. ELWES, Colesborne, Andoversford, Gloucestershire, England.

P. S.—I may add that I have still spare copies of my revisions of the genera *Argynnis* and *Erebia*, which I shall be glad to send to anyone who wants them in Canada or the States.

LITHOPHANE ORIUNDA.

Sir,—On the 24th of Sept., 1892, I found, in the vicinity of London, a moth new to me. It was resting in an upright position, on the stalk of a weed, quite fresh, as if it had but recently emerged. Its thoracic crest and tufts stood out conspicuously, which, with its gracefully curved and pointed wings, at once suggested a *Lithophane*; but its colour and markings were so different from what I had been accustomed to in that genus, that I hesitated to decide upon it as such.

In November I sent it with other material to Prof. J. B. Smith for

identification. He pronounced it to be a *Xylina* without doubt, but retained it for further investigation. On the 6th of March, 1893, I received a letter from him conveying what was to me the gratifying information that it had proved to be *X. oriunda*, on comparison with a typical specimen in the U. S. National Museum. I had long desired to obtain a specimen of *Oriunda*, and made inquiries for it of those with whom I exchanged, but none of my correspondents had ever met with it. *Lithophanes* have been one of my favourites, and my interest in this one was specially awakened by reading in the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST, Vol. 7, p. 188, a quotation made by Mr. Grote from a letter received by him from Mr. Norman, where, after giving the names of the *Lithophanes* he had taken at Orillia, he adds, "and that lovely *Oriunda* a single specimen," that quotation constituting the whole of my knowledge of the insect until recently.

The original description by Mr. Grote is to be found in the Bulletin of the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences, Vol. 2, p. 160, which I copy in full for the benefit of those of your readers who may not have the volume to refer to:—

"LITHOPHANE ORIUNDA, Grote. Allied to *L. Bethunei*, and belonging to the typical group of the genus. Distinct, intense, even, somewhat purply-brown. Forewings concolorous, with the costal edge shaded with whitish to the t. p. line, and interrupted by oblique brown streaks indicating the transverse lines. Reniform and orbicular spots more or less shaded with whitish, shaped as in *L. Bethunei*. Claviform distinctly outlined in black, large. Subterminal line alone distinctly indicated by pale points. The median dentate lines more or less lost in the ground colour. Veins terminally indistinctly black marked opposite pale dots on the brown dentate fringes. Secondaries dark fuscous, with a warmer shade on the fringes. Beneath paler, shaded with reddish, with a distinct discal spot on the paler hind-wings and a common line. On the primaries the pale costal dots are evident on both surfaces. Expanse, 34 m.m. Canada, Mr. Wm. Saunders, No. 960.

"Colour like *L. ferrealis*, but darker, with the subterminal line more even, the orbicular smaller, and the costal discoloration paler and more distinctly contrasted and limited."

This description is dated Sept., 1874.

No mention is made of the number of specimens the description is taken from, and Prof. Saunders does not now recollect the number of specimens captured by him, but knows that they were but few; perhaps not more than three. It would be very interesting if the number of speci-

mens to be found in collections could be known. So far as my information goes, it still remains an exclusively Canadian species.

J. ALSTON MOFFAT.

UNIDENTIFIED BOMBYCIDS.

Sir: Concerning Prof. Smith's note on page 164 of June CAN. ENT., it is, perhaps, unprofitable to enter into a discussion as to whether the generic names from Hübner's Tentamen should be adopted or not; but, as far as our Bombyces are concerned, there are only four of these names with which we have to do. They are: (1) *Nycteola*, Hubn., for *Sarrothripus*, Curt.; (2) *Hypercompa*, Hubn., for *Zoote*, Hubn. (Verz.), for *Euprepia caja*, Linn.; (3) *Dasychira*, Hubn., for *Dasychira*, Steph.; (4) *Melalopha*, Hubn., for *Ichthyura*, Hubn., (Verz.). The third of these introduces only a change in the name of the author; *Euprepia* cannot stand for *caja* anyway, since it must be used for the species of "Arctia" according to Mr. Kirby's method of fixing types, which seems eminently proper. The name *Arctia*, Schrank, has for its type *A. villica*, Linn., replacing *Epicallia*, Hubn. Our species, *E. virginalis*, by the way, is not congeneric with *A. villica*, nor with *C. dominula*, as Kirby puts it; but it seems hazardous to charge it till the European genera have been revised. If we discard *Hypercompa* (Hubn., Tent), for *caja*, the name *Zoote* (Hubn., Verz.), comes next in order. Thus there are only two of the Tentamen names which supplant names now in use, and only one which supplants a name by a different author. It seems to us more satisfactory to adopt these names and end controversy about them, especially as they have been adopted by Kirby in his work where the Bombyces of the world are brought together in a uniform system. We dislike to depart from this standard without conclusive reason.

HARRISON G. DYAR.

AGASSIZ ASSOCIATION.

Sir,—The Henry Edwards Entomological Corresponding Chapter of the Agassiz Association invites entomological students who read this notice to join its ranks. Members are expected to keep each other informed of the progress of their work in special lines of study, and to contribute to the published reports. During the winter one or more courses in Elementary Entomology will be conducted. The initiation fee is 50 cents. For further particulars, address the Secretary,

WILLIAM L. W. FIELD, Guilford, Conn.,
(After Oct. 1, Milton, Mass.)

Mailed July 7th.