NOTE ON *SIMAETHIS FABRICIANA*, L.

BY ARTHUR GIBSON, CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

For over three years we have had in the collection at Ottawa specimens of a pretty little Yponomeutid moth, which we have been unable to get identified.

Larvæ were first observed by the writer at Aylmer, Que., on May 24th, 1901. They were found feeding on stinging nettle (*Urtica gracilis*, Ait.), and appeared to be fairly abundant in one locality. Specimens collected on this date spun up within two or three days, and the moths emerged on June 7. These larvæ were noticed to have drawn the leaves together at the tips of the plants, and were living within the tents thus made. The cocoon is white and rather thickly woven. The pupa is slender and of a pale brown colour. After the moth has emerged, the empty pupa-case remains protruding conspicuously from the cocoon.

The following is a description of the larva: Length full-grown, 9 mm.; width at widest part, 1.5 mm. Head erect, bilobed, shiny, black, pale brownish towards clypeus, which is mostly pale and reaches almost to vertex; two or three pale spots are also present on each cheek. Body slender, dull yellowish, no markings on the skin. Thoracic shield black, divided in centre of dorsum. Tubercles black, shiny, large; lower lateral and ventral series smaller than i., ii., iii. and iv. Anal plate dark, mottled with black. Thoracic feet black; prolegs concolorous with venter.

During the past year Mr. C. H. Young also reared the species from larvæ found on the same food-plant, the moths emerging on the 4th, 8th and 10th June. Two of these bred specimens were sent to Mr. W. D. Kearfott, who identified them as *Simaëthis Fabriciana*, L. Writing under date of Oct. 26, Mr. Kearfott says: "This is a European species, never before recorded from this side of the water. The Ottawa specimens are 2 or 3 mm. larger than any of the European examples in my collection, but the fasciation and maculation seem to agree perfectly."

In a further letter, dated Nov. 28, Mr. Kearfott says with regard to this species:

"I see nothing else than to add this name to our lists. Dr. Dyar spent a night with me a couple of weeks ago. I showed him the two specimens and my European series, and he entirely agreed with my conclusions. The only difference is a slight increase in size."

March, 1905.