NOMENIA AND EUCHŒCA FINALE.

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In replying to recent papers by Dr. Dyar¹ and Rev. G. W. Taylor,² my desire is to end a controversy, not prolong it. First, as to *Nomenia*. When this genus was established, it was understood by most entomologists that the western species of *Euchœca*, which had been associated with it, was a form of our eastern species, now known to be the *comptaria* of Walker, thus the name of *12-lineata* was affixed to the type. Later, when it became apparent, with more material at hand, that the western species of *Euchœca* was really distinct, it seemed to me that Dr. Packard's description applied, with its reference to the antennæ as "well ciliated" to this *Euchœca*, not to *Nomenia* with its unipectinate antennæ; hence, I was using a preoccupied name, and described the *Nomenia* as *unipecta*. My desire was to make the description fit best the species placed under it. To my mind the description will cover either species, excepting the antennal structure, yet, offsetting this come the two references on pages 83 and 86 of the Monograph, where he states, first that they are pectinate, and again that they are not. But Dr. Dyar says I violated established usage in so doing, and though unconvinced, to close an argument, I will accept their decision, acknowledging the compliment extended by both, in using my name for the *Euchœca* species.

As to *Euchœca*: Dr. Dyar supposes I had neglected the names of *condensata* and *inclinataria*, Walker, but I had learned through examples of *lucata*, Guen., sent to Mr. L. B. Prout for comparison with Walker's type in the Brit. Mus., that *condensata* was the same. I quote his reply:

"*Euchœca lucata*, Guen. (teste, Packard) = *condensata*, Walk., certissime!" The absence of marginal black line in *lucata* and in the Walker type makes this certain, if any doubt existed. *Inclinitaria* is, vide Hulst (Entom. News, Vol. 6, p. 70, 1895), a synonym of *ferrugata*, Clerk, and this has been confirmed.

When Dr. Packard described *perlineata* in his Monograph, 1876, he assembled under it the original types described in 1873 from Albany, N. Y., May 4 (Lintner), Brooklyn, N. Y. (Graef), West Virginia, April (Mead), Mt. Washington, N. H., July (Morrison). The dates given, as I

1. CAN. ENT., Vol. 38, page 110.

2. CAN. ENT., Vol. 38, page 203.

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will show, are very important. *Perlineata* flies very early, and is short-lived. The West Virginia types (co-types we would call them now) in April. I have it from New Brighton, Pa., April 13–May 5. In this locality I take it from April 21–May 2. The Albany types May 4. Last year I went to the Catskill Mts., fifty miles from Albany, on May 23, hoping to take it there. I saw none, and rashly published the statement that it was not found there. This year I went on May 2nd, and found it flying, taking up to May 14 some 17 specimens, after that only one worn-out ♀ on May 20, though I searched diligently.

Exhumata did not make its appearance until two weeks later, June 4, its usual time as shown by my dates of the past ten years, and was common until the second week of July. Now, eliminating from the group those from Brooklyn, N. Y. (Graef), as without date, the above record will show, with the exception of those from Mt. Washington, N. H., July (Morrison), they were, including the Albany types, all examples of *perlineata*, while the date (July) tells plainly that those from New Hampshire were as surely *exhumata*. These last were figured on plate, as Mr. Taylor points out, and if the statement that for thirty years we have given to this species the name of *perlineata* has any force, which it has not, I would point out that Dr. Packard committed an error precisely similar in the case of *Caripeta angustiorata*, recently published by Mr. Swett (Journal N. Y. Ent. Soc., Vol. 14, page 128).

Descriptions I do not underestimate, I trust, and in this case I have examples of *perlineata* which answer well to it. If we are to be allowed to arbitrarily set aside the types or co-types upon which an author bases his description, as Mr. Taylor has done, it must be, in my judgment, for better reasons than exist in this case.

Hence, I hold to my conviction that *12-lineata* having "gone west," where it rightly belongs, that *perlineata*, as represented by the co-types in the Packard collection, is the *comptaria* of Walker, and that *exhumata* is to remain a valid species.

NOTE.—Since writing the above the thought occurred to me that perhaps the original types of *perlineata* had been returned to Dr. Lintner. I addressed a query to Dr. E. P. Felt, State Entom., and his reply, "The types of *Larentia perlineata*, Pack., are in the Lintner collection, and in excellent condition," caused me to journey to Albany to inspect them. The types are the same with those in the Packard coll. from West Va.

(Mead), and bear the label in Dr. Packard's handwriting, "Larentia perlineata, Pack., Albany (Lint.), type," and another old label in Dr. Lintner's hand, "May 4, '70." Dr. Packard had only this pair before him in 1873 when his description, which was copied almost verbatim in the Monograph, was made. In view of this fact, the contention of Mr. Taylor, that the description was made from another species, has no weight, and his argument, based upon *description* alone, though strongly and skillfully presented, is shown by these types to be worthless. *Descriptions* make the world acquainted with the type, but were never intended to take precedence of it, just *because* they are open to individual construction as to their meaning.

Exhumata is represented by five examples, one labeled White Mts., two from Schenectady, N. Y., July 10, 1876, and June 12, 1875. These three are called "Oporabia 12-lineata, Pack." The other two are from Stony Clove, Catskill Mts., June 26, 1874, and labeled "Epirrhita 12-lineata, Pack." (note the date), though Mr. Taylor asserts that the species has universally been known as *perlineata* for thirty years past.

Really, no one knew what to call his specimen until now, and I feel that the thanks of the entomological fraternity are due the CANADIAN ENTOMOLOGIST for the valuable space it has accorded us in "threshing out" the real status of the members of this group.

Incidentally, *Caripeta angustiorata* is represented in the Lintner collection by three examples, two of which are the *criminosa*, Swett, a distinct and well-marked species.

The species following will stand in the future as indicated :

- Nomenia duodecimlineata, Packard.
- = unipecta, Pearsall.
- Nomenia duodecimlineata, Pack.
- var. secunda, Pearsall.
- Euchœca Pearsalli, Dyar.
- = 12-lineata, Auct. (western).
- Euchœca comptaria, Walker.
- = 12-lineata, Auct. (eastern).
- = perlineata, Pack.
- = salienta, Pearsall.
- Euchœca exhumata, Pearsall.
- Euchœca lucata, Guenee.
- = condensata, Walk.