Cerastis cupida.

Noctua cupida, Grote, Proc. Ent. Soc. Phil., Vol. III.

Eastern States; New York; Pennsylvania.

Telesilla cinereola.

This species is the *Placodes cinereola* of Guenee, but the generic name had been previously used, and Herrich-Schaffer in consequence proposed the present designation for the European *amethystina*, and which should be retained for our species. Lederer's term *Eucarta* is later and has been withdrawn, in favor of *Telesilla*, by its author. Hubner enumerates the European species under Trigonophora, the type of which is quite distinct structurally from *Telesilla amethystina*.

Plusia gamma, (Linn).

Habitat, California (Hy. Edwards, No. 147).

I cannot distinguish the American specimens specifically. This species has been credited to Canada by Kirby (p. 307), and also to Hudson's Bay by Mr. Walker, in the British Museum Lists.

Adipsophanes miscellus, Grote.

Habitat, California (Hy. Edwards, No. 187).

ENTOMOLOGICAL READINGS,

Suggestive and Reflective.

BY W. V. ANDREWS, NEW YORK.

"There are no satisfactory distinctions between some of the moths which enable any one to say that they are of such and such species, and very frequently they are separated into different kinds because they happen to feed on various plants, and because the moths are not all colored in the same manner. Of course the Entomologists that believe in the real nature of species have taken a vast deal of trouble with the Noctuina, but those who do not think a species to be anything more than an abstract idea, and that it really consists of the sum of the variations of a closely allied series of forms, do not see the use of this Natural History hair splitting."—*Duncan's Transf. of Insects*, p. 125.

“ Many naturalists have observed that the species of *Solenobia*, one of the Tineidæ, have a most exceptional power of reproduction. The maiden females of the genus lay eggs which can be hatched so as to produce larvæ, and a naturalist may breed a species for years without seeing a male *Solenobia*. This extraordinary fact is not without parallel amongst the Lepidoptera * * * and it is common among the bees and the aphides.”—*Duncan's Transf. of Insects*, p. 146.

NOTE.—To many persons there will be, I hope, nothing new in the above statement, but there are more to whom it will not only be new but also incredible. In this connection I wish to state an occurrence, which, although not quite conclusive in its character, may, if known, recall to others similar occurrences with the same species, and they may have met with more definite results.

Two years ago, wishing to rear several broods of *Eacles imperialis*, I placed a female of that species in a favorable situation for attracting the male. I had forgotten whether the male usually remained in the company of the female for a long or a short time, and watched pretty closely till 1 o'clock a. m., for the purpose of ascertaining that fact.

I was much chagrined to find that at none of my visits was there any male visible. I was up betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock, a. m., still no male; and at broad daylight the result was the same. The female had, however, laid on the branches of the tree on which she was confined about thirty eggs, and although I considered them worthless, I put them into a small box without quite knowing why. I removed the female the next night to a still more promising spot, hoping that the eggs remaining in her might still be impregnated. No trace however of a male was visible, but, by the next morning, she had laid a quantity of eggs which I secured as before.

Every one of these eggs were fertile; but now comes the curious part of the matter. Every one of the larvae were of the dark brown variety, not a green one amongst them.

Now what I would like to learn is this: Does any one know of any case in which *imperialis* has produced fertile eggs without male assistance and, if so, what color were the larvae?