

argument looks plausible at first sight, a little reflection will probably convince many that it is baseless. We may leave genera out of the question now, as Staudinger has not attempted to grapple with the difficulties which they present ; but as regards species, it must be remembered—1st, that Staudinger starts from 1758, instead of 1767, and that I should have done the same had I investigated the question fully when I commenced my work ; and 2nd, that Staudinger, working at European Lepidoptera only, was necessarily better acquainted with the special literature relating to them than myself. Had I selected 1758, and possessed Werneburg's *Beitrage zur Schmetterlings kunde* at the time I was writing my own Catalogue, or had Staudinger's new Catalogue been published in time for me to verify the references contained in it, I think I may say that many of the alleged discrepancies would have disappeared, although, in some cases, I may have made use of materials which Staudinger does not appear to have employed, or may have seen reason to disagree with him as to the determination of certain species. Unless two authors have exactly the same materials to work with, or one copies from the other, no rules will be sufficient to insure their absolute agreement in *every* case ; but by the strict law of priority, the chances of disagreement are reduced to a minimum.

MICRO - LEPIDOPTERA.

BY V. T. CHAMBERS, COVINGTON, KENTUCKY.

(Continued from page 170.)

ANTISPILA.

A. ampelopsisella. *N. sp.*

In the preceding paper on this genus I mentioned that I had found the larva of this species mining the leaves of *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*. Since that paper was placed in the hands of the Editor, many months ago, I have succeeded in rearing it from the mine.*

* The specimen mentioned in that paper as having been bred from the Longworth grape vine, is now too much denuded for satisfactory comparison with this species, but I believe it to be the same ; certainly it is not any of the other known American species, and I have never met with it except in the Longworth grape leaf.

It is much smaller than any of the previously described species of this country, measuring only $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch *alar ex.*, whilst *cornifoliella* is larger $\frac{1}{4}$, *Isabella* a little larger still, and *Viticordifoliella* is scant $\frac{1}{4}$. But it differs still more decidedly by having an almost lunate, rather large snow-white streak extending along the base of the dorsal ciliae nearly to the apex.

The distinctions between the described American species are as follows: The fascia and dorsal spot in *isabella* are wider than in *cornifoliella*. *Isabella* has the palpi white and the anterior feet yellowish, with brown annulations. Dr. Clemens is in error when he says that it is without violet and greenish reflections; I find it shows them about as in *cornifoliella*. In all the species I should call the fascia silvery rather than golden, though it certainly is tinged with golden. *Isabella* has the antennæ brown, with faint purplish reflections in some lights; the basal joint is pale ochreous yellow, but the terminal joint is of the general hue. In *cornifoliella* the stalk appears a little darker, and the terminal joint is white. The head in *isabella* can scarcely be said to be golden, as Dr. Clemens describes it, but has metallic hues; it appears to be like the fascia, silvery tinged with golden, though in some lights it appears to be brown. I have not been able to detect any appreciable differences between the fore feet of these two species. The face of *cornifoliella* is more decidedly brown and less metallic than that of *isabella*, and the palpi are somewhat darker.

The most striking differences are in the size and form of the fascia. *Viticordifoliella* differs from both *isabella* and *cornifoliella* in the fascia, which, however, resembles that of *isabella*, except that it is narrower on the costa. The costal and dorsal white spots in *viticordifoliella* are much more nearly regular triangles than in the other two species, in which they approach the trapezoidal form, and the costal spot is relatively smaller than the dorsal and a little further back, but the most striking difference is that the wings of *viticordifoliella* are more of a dead brown hue, the violet and bronzy green reflections being much less distinct. Its anterior tarsi are silvery white, and the head and palpi silvery tinged with yellowish. *Ampelopsiella* has the palpi white; face and head silvery, the face with a blue tinge; antennæ dark purple brown, with the tip white; fascia much as in *cornifoliella*; costal and dorsal spots rather as in *viticordifoliella*, but its most distinguishing mark is the curved white spot or streak along the dorsal ciliæ.



Chambers, Victor Toucey. 1874. "Micro-Lepidoptera." *The Canadian entomologist* 6, 197–198.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/22238>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/12368>

Holding Institution

MBLWHOI Library

Sponsored by

MBLWHOI Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.