

England and elsewhere. Her ability and tenacity have made her achievements possible.

The honor role of amateurs is long and distinguished. They have made and are making significant contributions to our chosen field. The next time you hear the statement, "He's only an amateur," realize that this should not be a pejorative; perhaps it is a tribute, since the person in question does not have to be paid to perform. All of us, amateurs and professionals alike, have something to give lepidopterology. The difference between amateur and professional is one of degree, rather than kind. In the final analysis, there is not "amateur science" and "professional science", there is only good science or poor science. Let us recognize that we all have something worthwhile to say, and we will all benefit from such understanding.

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GENERAL NOTE

TRYON REAKIRT: A SEQUEL

In 1964 I wrote briefly about Tryon Reakirt, a Philadelphia entomologist of note during the 1860's (Brown 1964, *J. Lepid. Soc.* 18:211-214). He was a mystery man in his last years. All I knew earlier was that he had fled the country in early 1871. As a result, both his enterprises and his father's business filed for bankruptcy. I found the answer to his disappearance among newspaper clippings belonging to William Henry Edwards of Coalburgh, West Virginia.

One clipping is from the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Wednesday, 8 February 1871. Reakirt had forged notes on large pharmaceutical houses to the tune of more than \$110,000! An error in a date caused a bank clerk to go into the matter with the purported issuer. The fat was in the fire! Reakirt left town hurriedly, and ultimately got to Lima, Peru, where, apparently, he died of dysentery in late 1872 or early 1873.

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