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Chapter 1 : James Francis Stephens - Wikipedia

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His father was a navy captain William James Stephens d. He was then sent to study under Shute Barrington " , the bishop of Durham in He left in and worked as a clerk in the Admiralty office, Somerset House , from to thanks to his uncle Admiral Stephens. He wrote a manuscript Catalogue of British Animals in From to he took a great interest in ornithology and contributed to the work of George Shaw He was granted leave from office to assist William Elford Leach in to arrange the insect collection at the British Museum. He returned to the Admiralty but troubles with his superiors led him to retire early leading to loss of part of his pension. He then worked unpaid in the British Museum until his death and described as many as British insect species. He often used a pocket lens rather than a microscope and used a killing bottle with crushed laurel leaves rather than pinning specimens directly as was the practice then. Stephens made a large insect collection, which included many type specimens. In he married Sarah, daughter of a Captain Roberts. Their children died young. Stephens died at Kennington on 22 December and was survived by his wife. After his death his insect collection was purchased by the British Museum. Stainton also published a catalogue of these books Bibliotheca Stephensiana Stephens alone "26 , XIV, pt. Stephens Nomenclature of British Insects: Being a Compendious List of Such Species A systematic Catalogue of British insects: Containing also the references to every English writer on entomology, and to the principal foreign authors. With all the published British genera to the present time The plates are coloured by hand, after drawings by C. He however lost and most of his earnings from his book were lost to legal fees. This gave rise to an acrimonious dispute which split the British entomological establishment into opposing factions for over thirty years. He sent Stephens records of the rarer insects he had captured, and was delighted when Illustrations of British entomology gave him credit for capturing insects described in 33 entries, quoting his words in all but two of the cases.

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IN this genus the mouth is furnished with several lateral mandibles, denticulated at the tip: the antennae are very short, being merely a pair of small hairs: the Wings large and spreading, and the body lengthened.

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