



Figure 7: Great Sesia [ca.1816-18] watercolour and graphite on wove paper, numbered '35' in graphite in Abbot's hand to correspond to his entry in 'Notes to the Drawings of Insects', with 'terrestrial' in graphite in the hand of William Swainson, 34.7 × 24.7cm. Shows *Sphecodina abbottii* (Swainson) with *Vitis rotundifolia* Michx. (Muscadine). Alexander Turnbull Library, Picture Coll., E272/35.

than two hundred were reproduced as published illustrations. Abbot never supervised the printing of these watercolours, but instead relied on others to publish them as they pleased. The hazards of this approach are evident when his original watercolours are compared to the hand-coloured etchings prepared by Duménil and Borromée or even the hand-coloured lithograph in Swainson's publication. Abbot's carefully wrought compositions lose their distinctiveness in the reproductions. Another example can be found in the intaglio print of excerpts from Abbot's watercolours of insects and plants. Prepared by William Raddon, this print appeared in the 1840 London periodical, the *Entomologist*.<sup>35</sup> Raddon lifted and rearranged Abbot's figures to form