

NOTES ON SOME GENERA OF BLATTIDÆ.

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The genus *Steleopyga* was established by Fischer von Waldheim in 1833¹ with three included species, *orientalis*, *americana* and *trichoprocta*, the last a new species and the first two, while not so listed, are known to be the *Blatta orientalis* of Linnæus and the *Blatta americana* of the same author. Now the type of *Steleopyga* must be one of the three above mentioned originally included species. The first of the originally included species, *orientalis*, is not eligible as it was designated as the type of *Blatta* by Latreille in 1810.² To date, so far as I know, *orientalis* is the only one of the originally included species that has been designated as type of *Steleopyga*.³ The type is therefore as yet undesignated. The second originally included species, *americana*, has long been the designated type of *Periplaneta*, thus eliminating it from consideration as the type of *Steleopyga*. The third and last of the originally included species, *trichoprocta*, becomes therefore the type of *Steleopyga*.

Blatta aegyptica Linnaeus, the type species of the genus *Polyphaga* of Brullé, has as a synonym the *Steleopyga trichoprocta* of Fischer, shown above to be the type of *Steleopyga*. Thus *Polyphaga* Brullé and *Steleopyga* Fischer, having synonymous species as types, are themselves synonymous. *Polyphaga* therefore falls as a synonym of *Steleopyga*, being the more recent by two years. 2 Blatt., p. 30 (1907), designates *Blatta rhombifolia* Stoll as type of *Stylopyga* but it is not an originally included species of that genus.

In 1846⁴ Fischer introduced a different spelling of his genus *Steleopyga*, spelling it *Stylopyga*, crediting it to himself, quoting the reference to its original proposal in 1833 and including but a single species, *Blatta orientalis* Linnæus, which is figured. This is obviously but a different spelling, or an emendation, of *Steleopyga* but it has recently been used as a distinct genus by Mr. Shelford,⁵

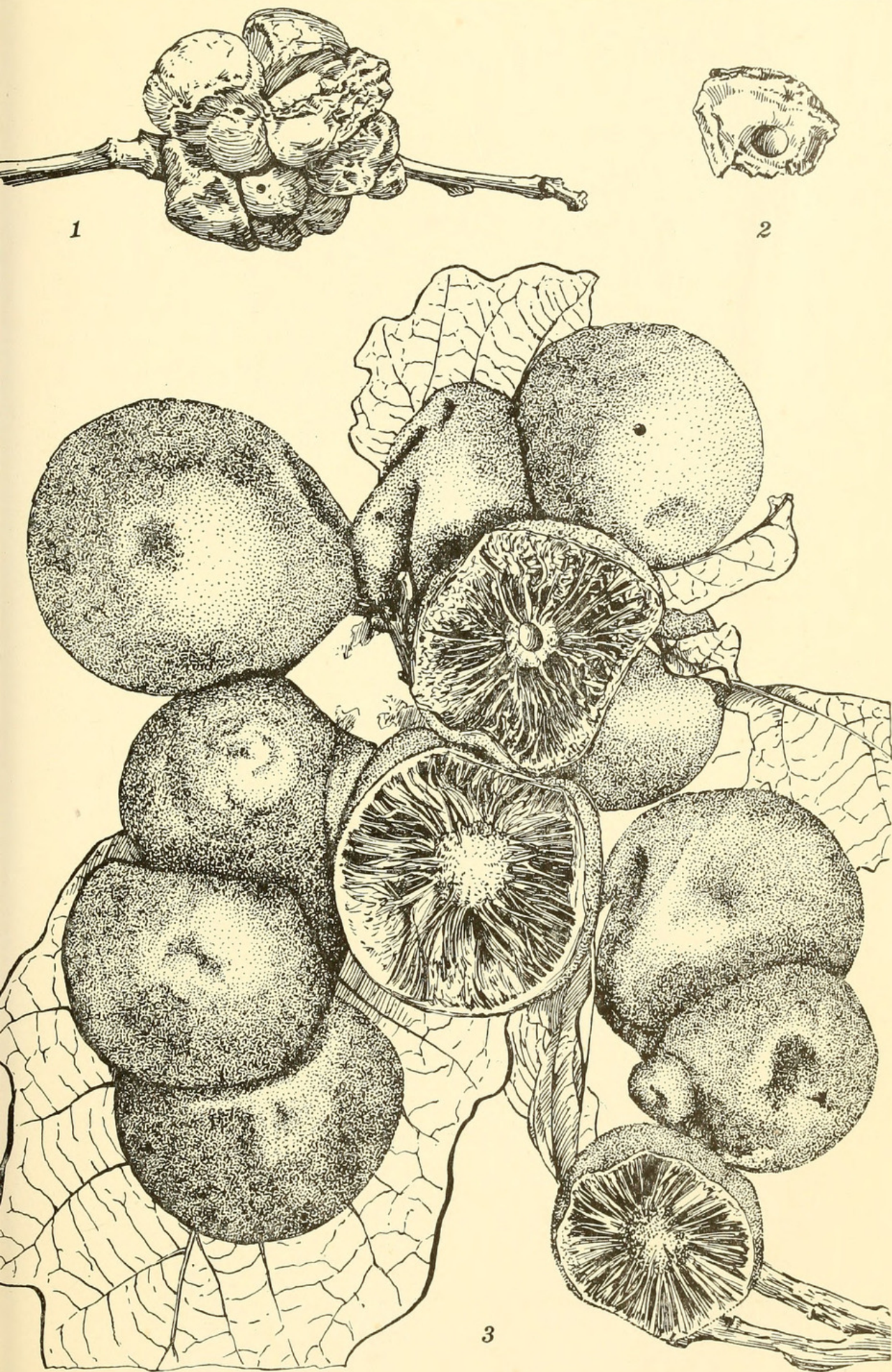
¹ Bull. Soc. Imp. Nat. Moscou, vol. vi, p. 356, 366 (1833).

² Consid. Crust., Arach. & Ins., p. 246.

³ Shelford, Sjöstedt's Expedit. Kilim. Meru &c., 17, Orth.

⁴ Orth. Russie, p. 68.

⁵ Genera Insectorum, Fasc. 109, p. 14 (1910).





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