Entamalogist's Monthly Magazine

DESCRIPTION OF A REMARKABLE NEW SPECIES OF AGRIONINA FROM MADAGASCAR.

BY R. M'LACHLAN, F. L. S.

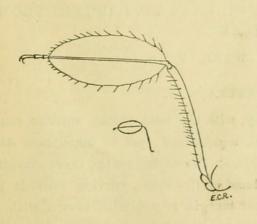
PSILOCNEMIS ALATIPES, n. s.

Caput suprà nigrum, lineâ albidâ transversâ utrinque signatum; frons albidus. Thorax albidus, utrinque lineâ nigrâ signatus. Pedes albi; genubus tarsisque anticis nigricantibus; tibiis intermediis posticisque valde explanato-dilatatis, elongato-ovalibus. Abdomen saturate brunneum; segmentis (basalibus duobus exceptis) nigro-terminatis; segmento 1º albido, dimidio basali nigro; 2º albido, infrà lineisque latis duabus lateralibus, postice angulatim sursum convergentibus, nigris; 3º basi summo lineâ albidâ tenui transversâ, fere geminatâ, signato. Alæ vitreæ, ad costam levissime flavido-tinctæ, sub-acutæ; pterostigmate nigro (3).

Head black above, posteriorly with a narrow transverse whitish line on each side; front portion of the vertex and the front and mouth organs (excepting the tips of the mandibles) blackish; or the whole head might be described as whitish, with a broad transverse black band above: antennæ with the second and third joints of nearly equal lengths, but the third much thinner, two basal joints whitish, third joint blackish (rest broken).

Prothorax whitish, black at the sides; the posterior lobe very large, only slightly raised, transversely oblong, the angles slightly rounded.

Thorax whitish; sides broadly black at the base of the intermediate legs; a vestige



of a black humeral line indicated only at its lower end, and a broad, black complete line from the base of the posterior wings; finally the under-side is almost entirely black between the coxæ. Legs entirely white, excepting the knees and tarsi of the anterior pair, and the terminal joint of the tarsi of the others, which are blackish; spines long and black; the tibiæ of the intermediate and posterior pairs are enormously dilated, elongate-oval, resembling

the septum remaining after the dispersal of the seeds of some cruciferous plants (e. g., Lepidium sativum).

Abdomen with the basal segment whitish, blackish at its base; second segment whitish, black beneath, and with a black angulated line on each side, leaving a sub-quadrate, spade-shaped white space above, with a peduncle not extending to the posterior suture; genital organs black: third to sixth segments of nearly equal lengths, the third much more than twice the length of the second, each dark brown and blackish at its posterior end, third segment narrowly whitish above at its anterior end (the rest wanting).

Wings with a slight yellowish tinge along the costal margin, narrow, the apex sub-acute; pterostigma rhomboidal, black; sixteen post-cubital nervules in the anterior wings.

Length of anterior wing, 21 millimétres; posterior wing, 20 mm. Expanse of wings, 43 mm. Length of body to end of sixth segment of abdomen, 33 mm.

I owe the possession of this remarkable insect to the liberality of C. Ward, Esq., who received it from his collector in Madagascar, Mr. Crossley, by whom it was taken in the interior of that island. According to the comparative lengths of the second and third joints of the antennæ, and of the second and third segments of the abdomen, the insect falls into the sub-genus Psilocnemis of De Selys; but I believe he is now of opinion that the separation of Psilocnemis from Platycnemis will eventually be found to have been based upon insufficient characters. The dilatation of the two posterior pairs of tibiæ is enormous, much more than twice as much as is seen in Platycnemis latipes of the south of Europe, which was hitherto supposed to possess this peculiarity in the most intensified form, and too exaggerated to be compared with that of the British Platyc. pennipes. The species of Psilocnemis were hitherto thought to be peculiar to Asia and the Asiatic islands. The female of P. alatipes will probably be found to want the dilatation of the tibiæ.

Lewisham: May, 1872.

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES OF DIURNAL LEPIDOPTERA FROM MADAGASCAR.

BY CHRISTOPHER WARD, F.L S.

ACRÆA MARANSETRA, n. s.

3. Upper-side: fore-wing transparent, glossy, with the base rufous, anterior margin shaded with brown; hind-wing red, a detached spot of black near the base, below the costal nervure; under this, and bordering on the inner margin, a cluster of confluent spots, beyond, a band of five spots, curving inwards to the anterior margin, all black; the outer margin edged with brown, with a band of seven detached semi-circular spots, black, and tipped outwardly with red.



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