

X.—*Rhynchotal Notes*.—XXIV. By W. L. DISTANT.

THESE notes and descriptions refer to species which are all contained or represented in the British Museum.

HETEROPTERA.

Fam. Coreidæ.

Mictis loricata, sp. n.

Above metallic green; antennæ, membrane, two large oblong discal spots to pronotum, and the corium (excluding lateral margins) dull black; head above, body beneath, and legs ochraceous; uppersides of femora and tibiæ (the last excluding apical thirds) castaneous; odoriferous apertures, three spots on second, third, fourth, and fifth, and a curved fascia on sixth abdominal segments black; first and fourth joints of antennæ longest and subequal in length, second longer than third; pronotum rugulose and coarsely punctate, its lateral margins coarsely serrate; scutellum transversely rugulose; corium sparingly deeply punctate; a short obtuse tubercle on each side of second and third abdominal segments.

♂. Posterior femora incrassate, curved, with a series of short tubercles on apical third of under surface; posterior tibiæ slender, inwardly dilated into an acute spine beyond middle.

Long., ♂ ♀, 26–28 mm.

Hab. Congo Region: Angola (Brit. Mus.).

This appears to be the species figured in Thomson's *Archiv. Entomol.* as *M. metallicus*, Sign., to which the species is allied, but may always (apart from structural characters) be differentiated by the two large discal spots, sometimes fused, to the pronotum, and by the three spots to the second, third, fourth, and fifth abdominal segments. The type of Signoret's species being in the Vienna Museum, I wrote to Dr. Handlirsch on the subject, who kindly examined the *M. metallicus*, and wrote me as follows:—"There are two type specimens in our museum, in both of which the pronotum is unicolorous, and there are two rows of black spots on segments 2-5." I have seen a very long series of both species.

Fam. Pyrrhocoridæ.

Physopelta melanoptera, sp. n.

Black; lateral and posterior margins of pronotum, corium,

and connexivum sanguineous; clavus, a very large medial spot, and apical angle to corium black; antennæ pilose, basal half of fourth joint stramineous, first joint slightly shorter than second, longer than third; pronotum with the posterior area coarsely punctate, lateral margins somewhat strongly reflexed; clavus coarsely and somewhat thickly punctate; rostrum passing the posterior coxæ and about reaching centre of second abdominal segment.

Long. $10\frac{1}{2}$ – $12\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Hab. West Africa: Cameroons (Brit. Mus.).

Allied to *P. analis*, Sign., but differing by the longer rostrum, different colour, &c.

Fam. Capsidæ.

Pæciloscytus cuneatus.

Lygus cuneatus, Dist. Biol. Centr.-Am., Rhynch. i. p. 435, t. xxxvii. fig. 24 (April 1893).

Pæciloscytus (Lygus) cuneatus, Uhler, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1894, p. 192.

Pæciloscytus obscurus, Uhler, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1893 (November), p. 715.

Paracarnus grenadensis, sp. n.

Paracarnus mexicanus, Uhler (nec Dist.), Proc. Zool. Soc. 1894, p. 194.

Pronotum more elongate than in *P. mexicanus*, basal margin of scutellum concolorous, not fuscous; spots at apex of clavus and narrow transverse fascia at apex of corium bright sanguineous, not fuscous; body narrower and more elongate.

Long. 3 mm.

Hab. Island of Grenada: Balthazar (*H. Smith*, Brit. Mus.).

Annona Smithi, sp. n.

Annona labeculata, Uhler (nec Dist.), Proc. Zool. Soc. 1894, p. 194.

A much narrower species than *A. labeculata*; pronotum (with the exception of the anterior collar) shining black, not ochraceous; basal half of clavus not castaneous, but its inner margins fuscous; corium with a subapical transverse fuscous fascia not reaching lateral margins.

Long. $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Hab. Island of Grenada: near Balthazar (*H. Smith*, Brit. Mus.).

Annona antilleana, sp. n.

Mala decoloris, Uhler, Proc. Zool. Soc. 1893, p. 705.

Head, anterior frontal collar, and scutellum pale shining stramineous, glabrous; pronotum (excluding anterior collar

and lateral and posterior margins) ochraceously punctate; clavus ochraceous; corium and membrane pale hyaline; antennæ dark ochraceous; apices of second and third joints fuscous; eyes fuscous; body beneath and legs stramineous; lateral margins of head beneath and sternum ochraceous.

Long. 3 mm.

Hab. Island of St. Vincent (*H. Smith*, Brit. Mus.).

This species has little in common with *Annona decoloris*, Dist.

Fam. Gelastocoridae.

Subfam. MONONYCHINÆ.

Mononyx luteovarius, sp. n.

Fuscous; lateral margins of head and pronotum, clavus, basal lateral margins of corium and connexivum pale luteous, spotted with fuscous; body beneath black; head beneath pale luteous with corresponding marginal markings to those above; femora dark brownish castaneous; apices of femora and the tibiæ and tarsi ochraceous; anterior tarsi and bases and apices of intermediate and posterior tarsi piceous. Head with two prominent tubercles between eyes, apex concavely sinuate, with two obtuse spines and another similar spine on each side nearer eyes; pronotum with the disk profoundly excavated, a transverse impression a little behind anterior margin and another beyond middle, the last crossed by three prominent striæ, lateral margins ampliatly rotundately produced; head, pronotum, and scutellum thickly punctate; apex of scutellum, mottlings to corium, and apical margin to membrane pale luteous.

Long. $8\frac{1}{2}$; exp. pronot. angl. $6\frac{1}{2}$ millim.

Hab. Queensland: Townsville (*F. P. Dodd*, Brit. Mus.).

Fam. Nepidae.

Genus LACCOTREPES.

Laccotrepes flavovenosa.

Nepa flavo-venosa, Dohrn, Stett. ent. Zeit. xvi. p. 409 (1860).

Laccotrepes japonensis, Scott, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (4) xiv. p. 450 (1874).

The British Museum contains specimens from India, Ceylon, Siam, Formosa, China, and Japan, including Scott's type.

Laccotrephes calcar, sp. n.

Fuscous brown; abdomen above purplish brown, the apical segment brownish ochraceous; wings pale lacteous hyaline, the veins ochraceous; anterior femora with a long curved subbasal spine on their under surface, its apex ochraceous; pronotum long, about as long as the intermediate femora, its surface finely granulate or tuberculate, its central carinæ prominent, its basal margin strongly concavely sinuate before scutellum, which is about as long as pronotum from before the basal transverse constriction; abdominal appendages more or less mutilated.

Long. body, excl. append., 49 mm.

Hab. Nigeria: Abutshi River (Brit. Mus.).

A species peculiar by the long (3 mm.) curved basal spine to the anterior femora.

Laccotrephes nyasæ, sp. n.

Very dark fuscous or piceous; abdomen above black, with a large pale ochraceous space occupying about half the area of the second segment, nearly the whole of the third and fourth segments, and the central area of the fifth segment; wings pale hyaline, with the veins dark fuscous; femora with a more or less distinct greyish annulation a little beyond middle, and tibiæ similarly marked a little beyond base. Appendages much longer than body, not quite twice the length; pronotum sparingly finely granulate or tuberculate, the central carinæ strongly pronounced, before scutellum strongly concavely excavated; sternum finely granulate or tuberculate.

Long. body, excl. append., 40-42; length append. 68 mm.

Hab. Nyasaland: Nyika Mountains, 6000-7000 feet (*A. Whyte*, Brit. Mus.).

This species may be primarily recognized by the peculiar coloration of the upper surface of the abdomen and by the very long abdominal appendages.

Genus RANATRA.

Ranatra fuscoannulata, sp. n.

Tawny brown; legs ochraceous, intermediate and posterior legs annulated with fuscous; corium with marginal series of linear black spots; abdomen above reddish ochraceous, its apex piceous; metasternum bilobed; apex of membrane not passing the fifth abdominal segment; anterior femora with a

strong spine just beyond middle; intermediate and posterior femora shorter than either the hemelytra or tibiæ; eyes moderately large and prominent; pronotum considerably less than half the length of abdomen; abdominal appendages more or less mutilated.

Long., excl. abdom. append., 35 mm.

Hab. E. Centr. Africa: Ruwenzori (*Scott Elliot*, Brit. Mus.).

Ranatra cinnamomea, sp. n.

Cinnamon-brown; abdomen above dull red, the connexivum ochraceous; anterior margin of head beneath black; pronotum beneath longitudinally fuscous; metasternum ovate, with its lateral margins incised; apex of membrane not reaching the sixth abdominal segment; anterior femora with a strong spine beyond middle; intermediate and posterior femora about as long as the hemelytra and a little shorter than the tibiæ; eyes large and prominent; pronotum about half the length of abdomen; abdominal appendages much longer than the body.

Long., excl. abdom. append., 38-39; length abdom. append. 50 mm.

Hab. S. Africa: Pirie Bush (*A. N. Stenning*); Durban (Brit. Mus.).

Ranatra varicolor, sp. n.

Fuscous brown; head ochraceous; about apical half of pronotum, anterior coxæ, abdomen beneath, intermediate and posterior legs piceous or black; abdomen above dull red, its apex piceous, the connexivum ochraceous; hemelytra more or less mottled with ochraceous; metasternum oblong, centrally depressed; apex of membrane reaching the fifth abdominal segment; anterior femora mutilated; intermediate and posterior femora a little shorter than the hemelytra and also shorter than the tibiæ; eyes large and prominent; pronotum about half the length of abdomen; abdominal appendages much longer than the body.

Long., excl. abdom. append., 44; length abdom. append. 58 mm.

Hab. "South Africa" (Brit. Mus.).

Ranatra natalensis, sp. n.

Allied to *R. varicolor*, but differing by the unicolorous hemelytra, head and legs concolorous; metasternum broadly and prominently centrally sulcate; apex of abdomen brownish

ochraceous, not piceous; membrane reaching the base of the fifth abdominal segment; intermediate and posterior femora longer than the hemelytra, but shorter than the tibiæ; pronotum about half the length of abdomen; abdominal appendages mutilated.

Long., excl. abdom. append., 35 mm.

Hab. Natal: Durban (Brit. Mus.).

Ranatra sordidula.

Ranatra sordidula, Dohrn, Stett. ent. Zeit. xxi. p. 409 (1860).

Ranatra unicolor, Scott, Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. (4) xiv. p. 452 (1874).

SYNONYMIC NOTE.

Philia jactator.

Philia jactator, Stål, Öfv. Vet.-Ak. Förh. 1854, p. 231.

Philia fenestrata, Bredd. Abh. Ges. Halle, xxiv. p. 35 (1901).

Mr. Kirkaldy showed me a cotype of Breddin's species.

XI.—*A new Family of Crustacea Isopoda.*

By GEORGE M. THOMSON, F.L.S.

[Plate I.]

IN the 'Mission de l'Île Campbell,' published in 1885, the late Dr. Filhol briefly described (p. 492) an Isopod obtained at Stewart Island as *Idotea Stewarti*, and figured it at pl. liii. figs. 8 and 9. The following is a translation of the very brief description:—

"Inner antennæ very short, 4-jointed; terminal joint elongated, slightly enlarged in the middle. Its apex reaches the end of the second joint of the outer antennæ. The latter are 5-jointed; their lower margin is furnished with numerous harsh hairs. The three first pairs of feet increase in size posteriorly; their third, fourth, and fifth joints are furnished with numerous hairs on their lower margins; the claws are long, slender, recurved, and acute. The last segment is elongated and rounded at its apex."

Among some Crustacea received from my friend Dr. Chilton, from Mr. H. Drew of Wanganui, were two dried specimens of this species.

In 1900, during trawling-operations on the east coast of



Distant, William Lucas. 1904. "Rhynchotal notes. XXIV." *The Annals and magazine of natural history; zoology, botany, and geology* 14, 61–66.

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