Expanse 34 mm.

Hab. Ninay Valley, Dutch New Guinea, 3600 feet (*Pratt*).

Type in my collection.

Geometridæ.

BOARMIANÆ.

Abraxas arfaki, sp. n.

♀. Head, thorax, and abdomen slate-grey, the latter with orange segmental divisions. Both wings slate-grey. Primaries with a small white spot in the cell and a large irregular one at end of cell; three small white subapical spots in a curve, two white rectangular spots above the tornus, a very broad white dash in the middle of the inner margin up to vein 2. Secondaries with the median area very broadly white and a subterminal row of white rectangular spots.

Expanse 53 mm.

Hab. Arfak Mountains, Dutch New Guinea (*Pratt*).

Type in Coll. Kenrick.

Near *A. albiquadrata*, Warren.

Tineidæ.

Daulia treicleiota, sp. n.

♂. Head, thorax, and abdomen dark brown, patagia creamy. Primaries pale greyish brown, with three broad bars across the wings slightly darker in colour, edged laterally with dark brown, the postmedian bar being D-shaped, the terminal one erect and rather narrower than the other two. Secondaries pale brownish grey.

Expanse 34 mm.

Hab. Dinawa, B. New Guinea, 4000 feet; September (*Pratt*).

Type in my collection.

LXIII.—*On a new Black-tailed Rat from South Africa.*

By GUY DOLLMAN.

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Epimys nigricauda kalaharicus, subsp. n.

Related to *Epimys nigricauda*, Thos., but smaller in size and much paler in colour.

Size of body and hind foot markedly smaller than in *nigricauda*; tail rather shorter. General colour of dorsal surface pale grey, faintly tinged with yellowish down the middle of the back. Flanks pale greyish white with no buff-coloured suffusion. Hairs of back pale slate-grey with yellowish-grey tips; interspersed are a number of rather long dark brownish hairs, but much less evident than in *nigricauda*. Face and head pale grey, rather darker on the posterior part of head. Ocular rings dark brownish black, the general effect a good deal less marked than in *nigricauda* and with no suggestion of the dark markings spreading on to the nose. Ears clothed with yellowish-buff hairs. Backs of hands and feet white. Entire underparts white, ventral surface rather less sharply marked off from the flanks than in *nigricauda*; hairs of belly white throughout. Tail similar in colour, but hairs considerably shorter, especially on the apical portion of the tail.

Skull much smaller than that of *nigricauda*, with shorter nasals and palatal foramina. Zygomatic breadth a great deal less. Molar teeth rather smaller. Unfortunately the only adult skulls of *nigricauda* in the Museum collection are imperfect, and it is at present impossible to compare the cranial regions of the two forms.

Dimensions of the type (measured in the flesh):—

Head and body 135 mm.; tail 161; hind foot 25; ear 24·5.

Skull: greatest length 33·2; basilar length 27; condylo-incisive length 31·5; zygomatic breadth 17; interorbital constriction 4·3; squamosal breadth of cranium 15; length of nasals 12·2; palatilar length 14·1; length of palatal foramina 7·4; length of upper molar series 5·7.

Hab. Molopo River, South Africa. Altitude 3000 feet.

Type. Adult female. B.M. no. 10.6.3.34. Original number 11. Collected on April 25th, 1909, by Mr. R. B. Woosnam and presented to the British Museum by the Subscribers to the Lake Ngami Expedition.

While working out the mammals collected by Mr. Woosnam during the Ngami Expedition, I provisionally identified the type of this new form as *E. nigricauda*, the type skull of *nigricauda* being too broken to be of any use for comparative purposes. Since then, however, some further specimens of *nigricauda*, collected by Dr. Anson in Mossamedes, have been acquired by the Museum, and it is at once evident, on comparing the skull of the Molopo specimen with an adult skull of *nigricauda*, that the two forms are quite distinct. The skins of the series from Mossamedes are

so like that of the typical *nigricauda* both in general colour and dimensions that there can be little doubt that they represent the same species. The following dimensions are those of an adult male *nigricauda* collected by Dr. Ansorge at Bombomé, Mossamedes, Angola :—

Dimensions (measured in the flesh) :—

Head and body 160 mm.; tail 191; hind foot 31; ear 22.

Skull (broken) : zygomatic breadth 19; length of nasals 15·2; palatilar length 17·6; length of palatal foramina 8·7; alveolar length of upper molar series 6.

The much smaller size and paler colour at once distinguish the Molopo race from true *nigricauda*.

The following is Mr. Woosnam's note on the habits of this rat :—

"These mice frequent the Kameel-thorn forests all over the Kalahari, especially where the trees are large, and they seem more numerous in the neighbourhood of water. They breed and spend all the daytime in the trees, only coming down on to the ground at night to feed. They generally choose an old hollow tree, into which a great quantity of dry grass is packed, sometimes as much as 20 feet from the ground. By setting fire to the nest they are easily smoked out, but not so easily caught, as they are very expert climbers and jump from the ends of a bough into a bush and so to the ground and escape in the grass."

LXIV.—*An Epizoic Hydroid on a Crab from Christmas Island.* By W. T. CALMAN, D.Sc.

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AMONG the Crustacea obtained by Mr. R. Kirkpatrick on a recent visit to Christmas Island (Indian Ocean) is a small crab belonging to the family Xanthidæ, which attracted notice by having a hydroid polyp attached, like a tassel, at the "knee" of each of its legs.

While it is very common to find hydroids attached to spider-crabs of the group Oxyrhyncha, it is much more rare in the case of crabs belonging to other divisions of the Brachyura. Further, in the Oxyrhyncha the association is more or less accidental, the hydroids being no more closely or constantly connected with the crab than any of the other