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black; tegmina fulvous green; wings with a pellucid border gradually narrowing posteriorly, the anterior quarter minia-ceous red, the remainder purplish brown (except that at the base there is a reddish tinge), the veins white; abdomen dull yellowish, glossy; legs greenish, anterior coxæ paler.

In the British Museum this elegant little species bears the MS. name *C. venezuelæ*, Bates; but, as it is now shown to extend beyond Venezuela, I have not adopted that name. I took a single specimen by sweeping among some low bushes in a *naturally* open space probably a mile or so long, and about half that breadth, with the primæval forest all around, a mile or two beyond the little village of Nazaré, near Pará; but, although I returned to the spot several times, I never succeeded in finding another.

This species will be figured in an early number of 'Aid to the Identification of Insects.'

XLVIII.—*Note on the Classification of the Homoptera.*

By FRANCIS P. PASCOE.

CONSIDERABLE difference of opinion exists as to the relative value of groups below the rank of orders among the Insecta; and nowhere perhaps is it more remarkable than with the Hemiptera*. Entomologists in the middle ages, *i. e.* from about 1830 to 1860, were content to divide the Homopterous section of them, exclusive of the Phytophthiria or Sternorhynchi, into three families, while the Heteropterous section had eleven (Amyot and Serville, 1843). Now we have at most five families of the former; but how many of the latter I am not prepared to say, Messrs. Douglas and Scott, in their 'British Hemiptera-Heteroptera' (1865), having not less than sixty-five families for the comparatively few species of these islands alone. For most these so-called families only rank as subordinate groups; but the fact shows how widely opinions differ. In my little work on Zoological Classification (2nd edit. 1880) I proposed thirteen families† for the

* Hemiptera was one of the four orders into which Linnæus divided the Insecta in the first edition of his 'Systema Naturæ' (1735). Fabricius in 1775 proposed the term Ryngota for the same order (now Rhynchota).

† Wrongly *Cephaleus* and *Ulopa* were placed under Cercopidæ instead of Iassidæ. It is true that this approximation is substantially the same as Walker's (Brit. Mus. List Homop. 637 *et seq.*). *Phenax* seems to lie between Cixiidæ and Lystridæ; *Dictyophora* has the cephalic prolongation of Fulgoridæ.

Homoptera; and as these do not exactly correspond with either the families or subfamilies or tribes of modern writers, I have thought it desirable to throw their characters into a tabular form. It will be seen that the Phytophthiria, including the Aphides, scale-insects, &c. are not here included among the Homoptera. They belong to a lower type, and their habits are very different. Claus, however, is the only modern writer, I believe, who raises them to the rank of a suborder, equivalent to Heteroptera, Homoptera, and Mallophaga. Thripidæ (forming the order Thysanoptera of Haliday) are apparently of higher rank; but they have not in modern times been regarded as a distinct order.

In the Table below I have added parenthetically certain names which are found in books, but which seem to me to be unnecessary.

Males stridulant, or with a drumming-apparatus (<i>Stridulantia</i>)	CICADIDÆ.
Males not stridulant.	
Antennæ inserted below the eyes (<i>Subtericornes</i>).	
Eyes in a cavity of the cheeks (<i>Cavigeni</i>).	
Exterior margin of the tegmina transversely veined (<i>Strigimargines</i>)	FLATIDÆ.
Exterior margin of the tegmina not transversely veined (<i>Nudimargines</i>).	
Head prolonged anteriorly	FULGORIDÆ.
Head not prolonged.	
Pro- and mesothorax together rhombiform	ISSIDÆ.
Pro- and mesothorax not rhombiform.	
Antennæ elongate, passing beyond the cheeks	DERBIDÆ.
Antennæ not passing beyond the cheeks.	
Anterior wings transparent	CIXIDÆ.
Anterior wings not transparent..	LYSTRIDÆ.
Eyes not in a cavity of the cheeks (<i>Planigeni</i>)	TETTIGOMETRIDÆ.
Antennæ inserted in front of the eyes (<i>Antericornes</i>).	
Prothorax prolonged above the abdomen (<i>Cornidorsi</i>)	MEMBRACIDÆ.
Prothorax not prolonged (<i>Planidorsi</i>).	
Posterior tibiæ with a double row of spines (<i>Serripedes</i>).	
Ocelli situated on the anterior part of the head	IASSIDÆ.
Ocelli more or less on the vertex.	
Body elongate	TETTIGONIIDÆ.
Body broadly ovate.....	LEDRIDÆ.
Posterior tibiæ without a double row of spines (<i>Lævipedes</i>)	CERCOPIDÆ.