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XX.—*A few undescribed Species of Cicadidæ.*

By W. L. DISTANT.

Subfam. *CICADINÆ*.Division *CICADARIA*.*Rihana operculissima*, sp. n.

♂. Head and pronotum brownish ochraceous ; mesonotum castaneous ; head with lateral striæ to front, a broad transverse fascia between eyes which reaches basal margin at the area of the ocelli, pronotum with a broad central fascia widened anteriorly and posteriorly, on each side of which is a longitudinal discal spot, the fissures and a spot on lateral margin, mesonotum with four obconical spots, of which the two central are shorter and better defined, a central line widening into a large subtriangular spot in front of cruciform elevation, and a spot on anterior angles of same, black ; margins of pronotum pale ochraceous ; abdomen above black ; face with the transverse striations and apical two thirds of central area black, inner margins of eyes and a transverse fascia between them and face, black ; coxal streaks, anterior and intermediate tibiæ, and the tarsi more or less piceous ; abdomen beneath black, somewhat ochraceous towards lateral margins, opercula pale ochraceous ; tegmina and wings hyaline, the venation greenish ochraceous on basal and piceous on apical area ; tegmina with the costal membrane greenish ochraceous, the postcostal area piceous brown between black veins.

Opercula very long, reaching base of sixth abdominal segment, the interior angles overlapping at base, where they are margined with black, apices subacute and a little outwardly directed, outer margins posteriorly concavely sinuate ; rostrum reaching the posterior coxæ.

Long., excl. tegm., ♂ 3½ mm. ; exp. tegm. 86 mm.

Hab. Mexico, Territ. de Tepic, Cerro San Juan (*L. Digue*t, Paris Mus.).

*Rihana Digue*ti, sp. n.

♂. Head above black, somewhat thickly ochraceously pilose, ocelli purplish red ; pronotum castaneous, its margins brownish ochraceous, with a central fascia, much widened anteriorly and posteriorly, on each side of which is a longitudinal spot, the fissures, and a spot on lateral margins, black ; mesonotum black, with four obconical spots only

defined by their testaceous margins, and of which the central two are shortest, angular margins of the cruciform elevation testaceous; abdomen above black; metanotum and posterior apical abdominal margins cretaceously tomentose; head beneath, sternum, and lateral areas of abdomen beneath cretaceously tomentose; legs brownish ochraceous; opercula ochraceous, with nearly their inner halves black, the whole more or less cretaceously tomentose; tegmina and wings hyaline, the venation somewhat ochraceous or testaceous on basal, piceous on apical areas; tegmina with the costal membrane black, on each side margined with testaceous, veins defining the postcostal area black; opercula subovate, their apices angularly convex and reaching the abdominal basal segment, their posterior margins obliquely convex, their outer margins almost straight, the inner angles overlapping; rostrum about reaching the posterior coxæ.

Long., excl. tegm., ♂ 30 mm.; exp. tegm. 90 mm.

Hab. Lower California (*Diguet*, Paris Mus.).

Division DUNDUBIARIA.

Tanna insignis, sp. n.

♂. Head, pronotum, mesonotum, sternum, and legs greenish ochraceous; antennæ, lateral striæ to front, area of the ocelli, and two small central marginal spots at base of head, two central fasciæ which are united posteriorly and angulated anteriorly, on each side of these a short curved discal fascia, a submarginal lateral fascia, the fissures and extreme edge of posterior margin to pronotum, a central line with a short curved anterior line on each side of it to mesonotum, four spots in front of cruciform elevation, and a spot on each side of same, black; abdomen testaceous, above with the segmental margins and the anal segment distinctly piceous, beneath with a transverse basal spot, the tubercles, and the anal segment piceous black; tegmina and wings hyaline, the venation greenish or fuscous; tegmina with the costal membrane greenish; basal margin of upper ulnar area black, the transverse veins at bases of 1st-5th and 7th apical areas infuscated, and marginal fuscous spots near the apices of the longitudinal veins to apical areas; opercula small, subquadrate, not extending beyond base of abdomen; rostrum reaching the posterior coxæ; a prominent tubercle on each side of the second abdominal segment; face broad, obsoletely centrally sulcate, the transverse striations brownish.

Long., excl. tegm., ♂ 20 mm.; exp. tegm. 60 mm.

Hab. Java (Coll. Dist.).

Tanna pallida, sp. n.

♂. Body and legs very pale tawny brown; pronotum with a central pale ochraceous fascia, on each side of which is a short longitudinal black discal spot, the sublateral fissure black and the anterior fissure brown (these dark markings apparently absent in female); mesonotum with two obsolete obconical spots, which are only defined by their somewhat darker margins, a small black spot on each side of cruciform elevation; abdomen finely palely pilose, somewhat in tufts on lateral margins; tegmina and wings hyaline, the venation and costal membrane of the first pale ochraceous; opercula small, subtriangular, just passing the base of abdomen; rostrum reaching the posterior coxæ; a single tubercle on each side of second abdominal segment; face moderately globose and strongly centrally striate.

Long., excl. tegm., ♂ 19, ♀ 17 mm.; exp. tegm., ♂ 55, ♀ 62 mm.

Hab. North Borneo; Sulu Islands, Jolo.

XXI.—*Flying-fish Flight, and an Unfixed Law of Nature.*

By Lt.-Col. C. D. DURNFORD.

THE controversy amongst naturalists as to whether flying-fish do or do not flap their wings in flight has become so one-sided as almost to represent extinction—as a controversy.

It is desirable, if possible, to revive it a little, by carrying the argument into new ground: first, because the one side which is at present believed in would appear to be the wrong one; and, secondly, because it seems to have escaped the notice of the other that this is capable of proof.

The arguments, if they may be so called, hitherto in use are simple assertion and denial, and may be summed up into:—

“Flying-fish do fly, moving their wings with extreme rapidity. I have carefully and frequently watched them, and there can be no doubt whatever about it.”

And the converse:—

“Flying-fish do not flap their wings, but use them as aeroplanes, like swallows when in skimming or sailing flight. I have carefully and frequently watched them, and there can be no doubt whatever about it.”

Somewhat similar remarks will be heard in any ordinary