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LXVII.—Description of a new species of stick-insect (Phasmidæ) from British Central Africa

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centre of the back being of a darker grey and the under surface yellowish white—as well as by a longer snout and smaller molars.

Measurements in millimetres of *E. tanala* and *E. Majori*:—

	<i>E. tanala</i> ♂ (M. 1358), type.	<i>E. Majori</i> ♂ (M. 166), type, measured in the flesh.	<i>E. Majori</i> ♂ (M. 430).	<i>E. Majori</i> ♂ (M. 536).
Length of head and body...	151	141	143	145
„ tail	189	154	154	164
„ hind foot	31	27	25	26
„ ear	24	19	21·5	25·5

Measurements of skulls:—

	<i>E. tanala.</i>			<i>E. Majori.</i>	
	M. 1358 (♂), type.	(M. 1515), ♀.	M. 1510 (♂).	M. 166, type (♂).	(M. 159), ♂.
Basal length.....	35	34·2	35	30·6	31
Absolute length ..	41·6	41	40	36·2	—
Length of nasals ..	16	17	16·7	14·2	14
„ frontals .	13	13	12	12	12
„ parietals.	7·3	7	6·5	6·5	6·5
Length of upper molar series ..	6	5	5·5	6·6	6·3
Length of lower molar series ..	5·5	5·5	5·5	7	6·3

Hab. Forest of the Independent Tanala of Ikongo, in the neighbourhood of Vinanitelo, thirty miles south of Fianarantsoa.

LXVII.—*Description of a new Species of Stick-Insect* (Phasmidæ) *from British Central Africa.* By W. F. KIRBY, F.L.S., F.E.S., &c.

MRS. MOIR, a lady whose husband is engaged on a coffee-plantation at Lauderdale, British East Africa, has lately returned to Scotland for the winter, and has brought with her an unusually fine Phasmide, which has been secured for the Natural History Museum at South Kensington. It appears to be quite new, and I therefore describe it as

Palophus Moiræ.

Female.—Deep chestnut-brown, inclining sometimes to reddish and sometimes to black; pubescent; head with a high double reddish crest, contiguous in front and sinuated behind; head above with two rather irregular rows of short spines on each side of the median line, and some scattered

spines on the sides; prothorax and mesothorax with numerous large and small red spines, irregularly arranged; abdomen with the fifth segment carinated and concave at the extremity above, and with a short carina on each side coalescing with the terminal one, each preceded by a round black spot; front coxæ with two or three small spines; femora lobate at the extremity, front femora straight, left front tibia with a lobe on the upper carina at two thirds of its length; first joint of left tarsi also lamellate above; middle and hind femora much curved, the middle tibiæ lamellate above and below near the base; tegulæ brown, a large hump, longer than broad and rounded at the summit, near the base. Wings with the costal area reddish brown, black at the base; a grey spot on the costa before the middle; the membranous part of the wings black, with numerous irregular waved and broken bands and spots of dull testaceous yellow, which do not anastomose, paler towards the inner curve of the margin, which becomes smoky brown with subhyaline markings.

	millim.
Long. corporis	223
„ capitis	9
„ pronoti	12
„ mesonoti	35
„ metanoti	31
„ segmenti mediani	19
„ tegminum	30
Exp. al.	232
Long. fem. ant.	73
„ „ med.	50
„ „ post.	64

This splendid species is the largest winged African Phasmide yet discovered, being nearly 9 inches long and more than 9 inches in expanse of wing. It greatly resembles the well-known *Palophus centaurus*, Westwood, which also exhibits a similar structure at the extremity of the fifth segment of the abdomen; but the shape of the crest, the spiny head and thorax, and the much longer wings are amply sufficient to distinguish it.

Mrs. Moir has communicated the following account of the capture in a letter to Miss E. M. Sharpe:—"I found it myself one morning hanging on to the clothes-ropes, when going to hang out something to dry, and only on its refusing to be shaken off did I find out it was alive. Mr. Moir injected carbolic, with a view to preserving it better, and only then did it put out its wings."

The stick-like appearance and sluggish habits of these insects are quite sufficient to account for their being rarely noticed, in spite of their large size and conspicuous appearance when the wings are expanded.