indicated on both wings, but is usually absent. Discal spots showing more or less on all wings as rather large spots, rarely as rings.

Described from twelve male specimens collected by Mr. J. B. Wallis, at Winnipeg, Manitoba, May 25 to June 2, 1909.

The species is quite different from any other North American *Selidosema*, but closely resembles in general appearances *Alcis atrolinearia* Hulst and *Cleora areataria* Bwl. It is, however, different from both in the absence of any indication of a hair pencil on the posterior tibia.

The type is deposited in the Division of Entomology at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. Co-types are in the collections of Mr. J. B. Wallis and the author.

ON *HALOBATOPSIS BEGINII* ASHM.

BY J. R. DE LA TORRE BUENO, WHITE PLAINS, N. Y.

In the course of preparing a synopsis of the *Gerridæ* of the Atlantic United States (and consequently of the Eastern part of Canada), it has been my endeavour to know at first hand, when possible, the forms to be included therein, and among them, naturally, the one herein treated:

Halobatopsis Beginii Ashmead, 1897, CAN. ENT., XXIX:56; Banks, 1910, Cat. Nearc. Hem. Het., 26; *H. Beginii* Bergr., 1908, Ohio Nat., VIII:373-4.

This species was overlooked by Kirkaldy and myself in our "Catalogue of American Aquatic and Semiaquatic Hemiptera,"* very fortunately, as it turns out, since thereby we were prevented from assisting in the perpetuation of an error; an error which, in the absence of the types, could not have been recognized from the description alone. In looking up descriptions, types, etc., for my studies in *Gerridæ* referred to, the U. S. National Museum authorities have been most good in allowing me the privilege of examination of their invaluable types and specimens named by the authors of species themselves. Among this material figure Ashmead's types (or what may pass as types, since they are from the type locality) of the species under discussion, labelled by himself. They are four specimens, in a more or less mutilated condition, three being *pinned*, but nevertheless clearly recognizable is the *immature stages or nymphs* of two unrelated GENERA! This fact has been established by careful comparison with long series of nymphs of the two species in question which have been taken abundantly in company with the adults, viz.: *Metrobates*

*Proc. Ent. Soc., Wash., X, pp. 173-215, 1908 (actual appearance in June or July, 1909).
July, 1911

hesperius Uhler, on Lake Mahopac, Putnam Co., N.Y., and *Rheumatobates Rileyi* Bergr., on various bodies of water in several localities in this near vicinity. Passing now to a specific consideration of each specimen, the following notes have been made. Three specimens bear handwritten locality labels. These are not very plain to me, but look (*very* roughly imitated) like "M. 27, 7, 96." I cannot venture to guess what this may mean, but it should appear from the original description, which I have not seen. Two specimens are *pinned* on one pin, one above the other as is usual in indicating the sexes, and the other is mounted on a point. The two on the pin bear a name-label:

"Halobatopsis

Béginii

Ashm."

in Ashmead's own handwriting. Both are dilapidated, but not to the same extent as the fourth one mentioned further on, and both have still the characters which enable one to recognize the genus and species. The upper specimen (therefore, presumably, the male) possesses unmutilated both antennæ, the front legs, the right middle leg, and the left hind leg. The left middle leg is lacking the tibia and tarsus and the right hind leg the tarsus. The lower specimen (therefore, presumably, the female) has lost the last three (?) joints of the left antenna, being otherwise in quite good condition. In "Ohio Naturalist" (l.c.), Bergroth remarks in referring to the species under consideration: "I am at a loss to make out why he (Ashmead) has placed it in the genus *Halobatopsis*, as the first antennal joint . . . is described as 'distinctly longer than joints 2 and 3 combined.' The 2nd joint, too, is said to be 'longer than the third, the latter being about three-fourths as long as the second.' Judging from the description *Halobatopsis Béginii* Ashm., belongs to a new genus." It is, therefore, fortunate that these two specimens should possess antennæ in good condition, as the preceding makes evident. I deem it neither necessary nor desirable to revert at length to these organs, for reasons readily deducible from what follows, because these structures at once determine the proper category of the two specimens. The upper one is smaller than the fourth specimen referred to and clearly belongs on antennal characters, even though we were to omit consideration of all others, to *Metrobates hesperius* Uhler, and is a nymph in the 3rd (?) instar. The lower one is an immature male of *Rheumatobates Rileyi* Bergroth, in about the 4th, or 5th and last, nymphal instar. Here again the antennæ, although not quite formed, begin to reveal the bizarre structure so characteristic of the males of this genus and the hind femora

already have indications of the curious distortion peculiar to certain of its species. The single specimen on a point, already referred to, is another nymph, somewhat smaller than the fourth, of *Metrobates hesperius* Uhler, very much shrunken and mutilated, having left only portions of three legs, the left anterior and right middle and posterior. The fourth specimen, on a very rusty and verdigrised pin, bears a printed locality label "Sherbrooke, Can.," and on another small label "418," in pen and ink. This is a male, more or less greasy and shrunken (the latter, by-the-bye, an evidence of immaturity), and has left to it only one whole and three half legs, the former being the right anterior, and the latter the femora of the left anterior and both posterior legs. The antennæ also are absent. The structure of the head, however, shows its affinities, and it agrees with nymphs in the 3rd or 4th instar of *Metrobates hesperius* Uhler.

It naturally follows from the preceding that *Halobatopsis Béginii* Ashm., has no real existence as a biological unit, in that it is a composite of two known species in as many different and unrelated genera, its only claim to attention being that it is an addition to our synonymies.

My valued friend, Mr. Otto Heidemann, of Washington, D.C., at the time these specimens were sent to me for study, called my attention to their being nymphs of *Metrobates* and *Rheumatobates*, and it is with peculiar pleasure that I make known here his independent arrival at this conclusion, the correctness of which a glance at the specimens made evident, and which careful study subsequently amply confirmed.

The synonymy of the two genera and species involved may now be corrected to read as follows :

Metrobates Uhler, 1871.

Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., XIV, 108.

= *Halobatopsis* Ashmead, 1897, CAN. ENT., XXIX, 56 (not Bianchi), [in part, for nymphs].

Hesperius Uhler, 1871, l.c.

= *Béginii* Ashm. (*Halobatopsis*), 1897, l.c. [in part, nymphs of this species described as adults].

Rheumatobates Bergr., 1892.

Ins. Life, IV, 321.

= *Halobatopsis* Ashmead, 1897, l.c. (not Bianchi), [in part, for ♂ nymph].

Rileyi Bergr., 1892, l.c.

= *Béginii* Ashm. (*Halobatopsis*), 1897, l.c. [in part, for ♂ nymph described as adult].