REMARKS ON COCCIDÆ FROM UGANDA.

By E. ERNEST GREEN,
GOVERNMENT ENTOMOLOGIST, PERADENIYA, CEYLON.

IN Prof. Newstead's paper "On Scale Insects from the Uganda Protectorate" (Bull. Entom. Res. Vol. I. pt. 1) is a description and figure of the male larva of *Stictococcus dimorphus*. This remarkable larva is said to have no mouth parts. It is also unique in differing completely in form and structure from that of the female larva of the same species. Its anal aperture is not only in a different position, but of a different character—having a setiferous ring similar to that of the DACTYLOPIINÆ. *Stictococcus* is (rightly or wrongly) placed in the subfamily LECANIINÆ.

This strongly-marked sexual dimorphism in a larval Coccid is of itself unprecedented; but the total absence of buccal organs is astounding. One naturally asks—how does this insect obtain the nourishment that must be necessary for further growth and the completion of its development? I can conceive of only one possible explanation of such a condition, and that a somewhat improbable one:—namely that the species is parthenogenetic and that, in addition to functionally fertile female progeny, a certain number of abortive male larvæ are produced.

Prof. Newstead does not state whether both of these larval forms were taken from the marsupium of a single female,* nor whether any later stages of the male insect have been observed.

With regard to Prof. Newstead's determination of *Aspidiotus lataniæ*, Sign., in this same paper, I think that he must have overlooked the facts recorded in the Ent. Mo. Mag. xxxv. p. 181 (1899), in which, from examination of Signoret's actual type material (kindly lent by the Vienna Museum), I showed that the species so closely resembling *A. destructor* had been wrongly determined as *lataniæ*, and that the true *lataniæ* was apparently identical with *A. cydoniæ* of Comstock. The insect that I had—in the first part of my "Coccidæ of Ceylon"—confounded with *lataniæ* reverts to its earlier name of *transparens*, Green (see Journ. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc. vol. xiii. No. 1, p. 69, 1899). Whether *cydoniæ* is or is not acknowledged to be synonymous with *lataniæ* of Signoret, the species here recorded by Prof. Newstead as *lataniæ* should stand as *transparens*, Green.

* [Larvæ of both sexes were taken from the marsupium of a single female.—R. N.]

It would be impossible to confuse either the dried puparia or the adult female insects of typical *latania* with those of *destructor*, but they might easily be mistaken for those of *camelliae*, Sign. In fact, the insects of these two species can be separated only by the presence or absence of circumgenital glands, which occur in *latania* but are wanting in *camelliae*. All the other characters of the pygidia of the two species are practically identical.

Peradeniya, Ceylon,
15 June, 1910.