

regretting that so little was known of their habits, and hoped that Mr. Minot would continue his studies in this direction.

From aquatic larvæ the conversation turned in the direction of that tiny tormentor, the mosquito, and marvellous accounts of its abundance in certain localities, and the sufferings of man and beast from its blood-thirsty propensities, were related by Mr. Scudder, Dr. Morris and others.

Mr. Riley made some remarks on the Cotton Worm, and stated that he had bred nine distinct parasites which preyed on this insect.

The time for adjournment having arrived, the members, after referring to the great pleasure they had derived from the interesting sessions of the Club, unanimously expressed the hope that all present might meet again next year in Boston.

IDENTIFICATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS OF NOCTUIDÆ,
WITH A NEW HETEROCAMPA, AND NOTES
ON NEMEOPHILA.

BY A. R. GROTE, BUFFALO, N. Y.

Prodenia phytolacæ (Abbot & Smith, Vol. 2, 193, Pl. 97).

This species is sent me by Mr. Belfrage from Texas, under the number 706 (pink label). The insect has naked eyes, pellucid white and iridescent secondaries, the veins and external margin slightly soiled. It cannot be referred to *Xylomiges*, the type of which genus, the European *conspicillaris*, has hairy eyes, as have all the species referred by me to *Xylomiges* in my "Check List" and elsewhere. I think there can be no reasonable doubt that I have Abbot's species before me. It is, however, probable that this is Mr. Morrison's *Actinotia derupta*. If so, there seems to me no valid excuse for the new name, for Abbot's figures are quite recognisable, while the streaky fore wings of this species are unusually difficult for exact delineation. But what distinguishing marks there are upon them are indicated with sufficient exactitude in Abbot's plate, and I cannot hesitate as to the correct name for the species. The fore wings are confusedly marked, brown and gray streaked. The exterior line is

indicated by dark marks on the veins. The subterminal line is indicated by a yellowish streak, nearly touching the margin between veins 3 and 4, thence running obliquely inwardly and interrupted before internal margin. Fringes finely cut with pale yellowish. There is a more prominent dark streak along internal margin. It is smaller than the other species of the genus, and must not be confounded with any of the varieties of *Laphygma frugiperda*. With the identification of this species I think I have made out all of Abbot's published Noctuidæ. I am the first to re-discover *Adita chionanthi* of Abbot, Bull. Buff. S. N. S., 2, 63. I have referred Abbot's *vidua* to *desperata* Guen., and this reference has been generally accepted. There is, finally, a little doubt with regard to my identification of *calycanthata*, which perhaps cannot be removed until our species of *Homoptera* are better known.

Mamestra mucens (Hübner), Zutr. 415, 16.

This species is sent me under the numbers 704 and 705, by Mr. Belfrage. Under the first number dark specimens, suffused with brown, are included. They cannot be considered as anything but a variation of this species, now for the first time recognized by me. The eyes are hairy and I regard it as congeneric with and allied to the eastern *confusa*. The species I have referred to *Morrissonia* are structurally allied to those included by me under *Mamestra*, but the pattern of ornamentation is distinctive of the forms included under *Morrissonia*. Belfrage took *mucens* March 10 to 23. Gueneé puts this species in "*Xylophasia*," which contains a mixture of forms, some with hairy and some with naked eyes. I have separated the species in this respect.

Morrissonia infidelis, n. s.

♂. This name is based on a single male from Michigan which is in good condition. Eyes hairy. Color of *vomerina*, but more reddish brown. Collar pale and a pale spot at base of primaries; a black line edging the collar behind; thorax rich reddish brown. Costa pale at base, below median vein a rich red-brown shade extends outwardly, suffusing the wing. Reniform L-shaped, the lower part open, brown-filled, pointing to base of wing; this is surmounted by the upright part of the spot which is small. Orbicular small, oblique, lying over and touching the extension of the reniform. The usual pale shade bordering vein 3; terminally the

wing is a little darker. Hind wings pale fuscous with interlined white-tipped fringes; beneath reddish gray, with common line marked by black scales on the veins. *Expanse* 36 mil. Differs by the stigmata not being fused and pale, but finely ringed, separate and brown-centered. It may eventuate that *vomerina* and *evicta* are not distinct specifically.

Euleucyptera cumatilis Grote, Proc. Ent. Soc. Phil., 4, 330, pl. 2, fig. 6.

I have noted in the Bull. U. S. Geol. Survey, p. 798, vol. 3, some of the variations of this species, which is common in all the Colorado collections. One specimen now before me from that locality has the discal mark on hind wings evident; another has an indication of the reniform on primaries. These spots are an apparently variable character, since from Kansas Prof. Snow has sent me an immaculate form.

There cannot be any doubt that Mr. Strecker has re-named and re-figured this species, in the report of the Chief of Engineers, as *Heliothis sulmala*, on page 1862, plate 2, fig. 5. It is precisely the form with the discal marks evident, and from Colorado, fully described and figured by me thirteen years previously, which Mr. Strecker reproduces. The species has been identified by me in many collections and is well known to Western collectors under its proper name. I have given, Bull. B. S. N. S., 2, pp. 219-221, the structure of the N. Am. *Heliothis* genera. From this, if we are to take note of the armature of the legs, the vestiture of the body, the structure of the eyes, which, together with the form of the genital pieces and the venation, are all that we can use to establish genera in the Noctuidæ, we must consider that the genus *Euleucyptera* cannot be fused with *Heliothis*.

Ingura declinata, n. s.

♂. Allied to *præpilata* from Texas, but larger, with longer wings. Ornamentation and color of *præpilata*, but the secondaries are more than half white, leaving but a moderate fuscous band along external margin. On fore wings the exterior line is less even. Below the discal angulation it shows a rounded uneven projection about vein 3. Otherwise the ornamentation is much like *præpilata*; both stigmata present and the two usual sub-apical black terminal longitudinal dashes; at base the rounded discoloured patch bounded by the half-line. Beneath, however, *declinata* is largely whitish, with a white apical patch on fore wings followed by a brown shade, enclosing the costal white dots beyond the angulation of the

extra mesial line, which latter is double, with white included space, marked on costa, else fragmentary. *Expanse* 30 mil. California.

Ingura flabella, n. s.

Male antennæ with long hanging pectinations, apices simple. Smaller than usual and very dark and silky. Fore wings blackish, darker shaded at outer two-thirds over the exterior line, which is double, narrow, deep black, angulated on cell, thence inwardly and shallowly arcuate, even through its course. Subterminal line flexuous, pale, apparent below the angulation of exterior line. From this point it is outwardly roundedly projected over the lower median nervules nearly to external margin. Reniform small, pale ringed. Two short fine superposed black dashes on external margin opposite the cell. The wing shows here, below the apices, a faint whitish shade. A faint brown tint suffuses the darker portion of the wing over the exterior line. Fringes blackish, narrowly cut with pale. Hind wings velvety black with white fringes. Beneath fringes on both wings largely white or whitish. Costal white dots on primaries strongly relieved. Both wings are crossed by three or four black approximate, parallel, extra-mesial lines which show faintly against the blackish ground color. Fringes on primaries faintly marked with blackish. Body brownish black; breast pale. This species is recognizable by its small size, broad wings and black, white-fringed secondaries. *Expanse* 22 mil. Kansas.

Graphiphora erythrolita, n. s.

♂ ♀. Male antennæ bipectinate, the stem outwardly red. Moderately sized, the color varying from obscure hoary purple to reddish. All the markings indistinct except the broken black subterminal shade and the more or less black-marked reniform spot. Outer line double, broken into dots. Reniform narrow, outwardly oblique. Orbicular rounded, often vague, more or less distinctly filled with blackish. Lines marked on costa. Primaries with the apices acute, external margin outwardly rounded. Thorax concolorous. Hind wings fuscous, paler at base. Beneath grayish, irrorate with black. A faint common line and discal dots. *Expanse* 30 to 32 mil. California (Yosemite, Big Trees), Mr. Behrens. Ten specimens examined.

I have received from Mr. Belfrage four fresh male specimens of a new *Heterocampa* under the numbers 616 (yellow label) and 533 (violet label).

Heterocampa Belfragei, n. s.

This species is less distinctly marked than usual, of moderate size. The tone of the fore wings is olive gray with a narrow curved brown discal mark, and the broken subterminal line is composed of brown spots, indented on interspace between veins 4 and 5, and preceded by a diffuse whitish shade superiorly. A short narrow curved black basal streak. Median lines double, interspaceally lunulate, indistinct. Hind wings pale, more or less markedly dusky on costa and external margin, crossed by incomplete double extra-mesial shade lines. Thorax like fore wings; the tuft behind blackish, and the tegulæ edged incompletely with black. Beneath pale, without markings, except a dark common shade line near the margin of the wings, which is not always noticeable. March 23; April 15, 17, 21. Average expanse 36 mil. Clifton, Bosque Co., Texas.

Nemeophila caespitis.

In our original paper on this species, which we figured together with *N. cichorii*, Trans. Am. Ent. Soc., vol. 1, plate 6, we stated that the material illustrated in that paper, collected in California by M. Lorquin, was communicated to us by Dr. Boisduval, and that we adopted the specific names with which the specimens were labelled by Dr. Boisduval (l. c. p. 3). In the Annales de la Société Ent. Belg., 1868-9, p. 75, Dr. Boisduval states that he gave us these species to illustrate and describes them himself as distinct from the European *plantaginis*, under these same names. It seemed to us that there must be sufficient characters to induce their separation, since an Entomologist so well acquainted with the European fauna as Dr. Boisduval, considered them to differ. Possibly they are only varieties of the European form, but seemingly well marked. Our responsibility is however limited to the publication of them on the authority of Dr. Boisduval.

Nemeophila geometrica Grote.

This form has proved to be merely a black form of *Nemeophila*. This reference was made by Dr. Packard in 1872, 4th Ann. Rep. Peab. Acad., p. 86. I originally described the species from a single defective specimen, without antennæ, in 1865, as a Zygaenid, allied to *Ctenucha*, in which I was in error. My mistake is paralleled by that of Dr. Boisduval, who described the black form of *Epicallia virginalis*, an Arctian, as a new species of the Zygaenid genus *Agarista*. Mr. Strecker has quite super-

fluously and in an exaggerated manner drawn attention to my mistake on different occasions, but if he would devote the time to looking up already described species before re-naming them and familiarize himself a little more with structure, his descriptions would have a value which they do not yet possess, and his time be better employed. I need not say that at the time I published these species there was comparatively little known on the subject and information was not so easily obtained as at present. A mistake like that made by myself, once corrected, has no further value in science, and in Mr. Strecker's hands is only used as an excuse for an unwarrantable personal attack.

Dr. Packard omitted the genus *Nemeophila* from his Synopsis of the Bombycidae. It is not yet found in the Eastern States, but in the West and North. As collections come in it seems probable that we have but a single variable American form, but whether this is identical with the European cannot as yet be considered certain. The occurrence of this genus on the western coast increases the resemblance to the European fauna. Dr. Packard says regarding a species unknown to me: "*Platarctia Scudderii* Pack., as I have long suspected, is a *Nemeophila* and closely allied to *N. petrosa*, the anal claspers of the male being much like those of the latter" (l. c. p. 86). It may, then, turn out that the Californian forms are distinct from the North-western and that different species of these latter (*petrosa* and *Scudderi*) are to be separated. I wish here, however, merely to point out that we are not in a condition to come to positive conclusion as to these points as matters stand at present.

DESCRIPTIONS OF SEVERAL CRABRONIDÆ.

BY W. H. PATTON, WATERBURY, CONN.

HOPLISUS GRACILIS, *n. sp.*

♀. Length 10 mm. Black, clothed with an appressed brown pubescence as in *Hoplisus phaleratus* (*Gorytes phaleratus* Say); face with a very short silvery pile. Face, stripe between antennæ, anterior and posterior orbits, clypeus, labrum and mandibles (except the piceous tips), palpi, coxæ, trochanters and femora of anterior legs anteriorly, spot on