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### VIII.—Notes on the genus Dyschorista, Led., a small group of moths allied to Orthhosia

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*Streptostele simplex.*

Testa subulata, tenuis, imperforata, cereo-alba; anfractus 9, apicales læves, cæteri convexiusculi, sutura obliqua profunda discreti, longitudinaliter confertim striati; apex obtusus, globosus; apertura parva, longit. totius  $\frac{1}{4}$  vix æquans, subquadrata; perist. haud incrassatum, antice leviter expansum; columella subrecta, reflexa. Longit.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  millim., diam. 2; apertura 2 longa.

This species has rather convex whorls, is finely striated, and has a deepish suture. The outer lip is scarcely thickened and does not exhibit the sinus at the upper part which is characteristic of the genus. In form and general appearance, however, it agrees very well with the type of the group, *S. fastigiata*, Morelet. It also bears some resemblance to *S. Buchholzi* of Martens, from the Cameroons, but is considerably smaller, and has shorter and rather more convex whorls.

VIII.—*Notes on the Genus Dyschorista, Led., a small Group of Moths allied to Orthosia.* By A. G. BUTLER.

THE genus *Dyschorista* was founded for the reception of two European species, *D. suspecta*, Hübn., and *D. ypsilon* = *fissipuncta*, Hew. (see Lederer, Noct. p. 143, gen. 82).

Accepting *D. suspecta* as type of the genus, it will be necessary to include the bulk of the forms referred by M. Guénée to his previously characterized genus *Orthodes*.

*Orthodes*, Guénée, was described in the first volume of the 'Noctuélites,' p. 371, no type being indicated; but Guénée selected two of the species, *O. t-nigrum* and *O. curvirena* (both Brazilian), for illustration. In the description of the species of his second group Guénée pointed out that *O. curvirena* differed structurally from the remainder of the genus:—"L'une d'elles (*Curvirena*) a les palpes particulièrement ascendants et allongés." He thus restricted the identification of his type to *O. t-nigrum*, the first species of his first group.

In the Museum collection we have an example of *O. t-nigrum*, and, as may be seen from the figure in the 'Noctuélites,' it has no connexion whatever with the remainder of the species, but is in fact far more closely allied to *Leucania*; fortunately the remaining species correspond with *D. suspecta* in size, pattern, coloration, the ascending palpi, simple antennæ, and heavily tufted anal decorations of the male.

In his 'Check-list of North-American Moths' for 1882 Grote rightly reduced the number of M. Guénée's North-American species, *Orthodes nimia* and *candens* being sunk as

synonyms of *O. cynica*, of which they are in fact slight varieties; *O. infirma*, however, is a Brazilian species, and must be expunged from the North-American fauna, the form described by M. Guénée as var. A being, as he supposed, a distinct species.

In typical *O. infirma* the secondaries of the male are creamy white—"Ailes infér. d'un blanc-jaunâtre"—whereas in the northern form they are of the same glossy brownish grey as in the female. In the Brazilian insect the inner line of the central area of primaries is more oblique and much more irregular and the outer line more distinctly sinuated between the nervures; both of these lines and the edges of the discoidal spots which they enclose are much less prominent than in the northern form; but, as M. Guénée says, the subterminal line is clearer, at any rate it is so in the female; the marginal spots are very indistinct, and are thus overlooked in the original description of the Brazilian form; but in that of var. A the pale zigzag line which shows them up in the northern form is noted:—"Un feston terminal clair très-marqué." I propose to give the North-American species the new designation of *Dyschorista crenulata*.

Four closely allied Brazilian species are in the collection, all differing more or less in the clothing of the under surface of the primaries, the tufting of the anal extremity in the males, or the palpi; one of these is typical *O. infirma*, a second may be *O. rubor*, but the discoidal spots are bordered by a pale line, whereas in Guénée's type (a female) they were not; a third I am unable to recognize from any of the descriptions; it is a male with closed anal claspers, giving it the aspect of a female; the costa of the primaries is distinctly arched towards the base; the under surface of these wings almost wholly covered with dense rough hair, which extends also to the basicostal area of secondaries; the coloration and general pattern is that of *Dyschorista crenulata*, but the "orbicular" spot is rhomboidal, the two outlines of the central area are indistinct and much more parallel, and the pale crenulated submarginal line is wanting; the pectus and femora are also much more hairy. I propose to call this *Dyschorista lanaris*. The fourth species of the same group is *U. curvirena*—a most remarkable insect, in which the palpi are curved upwards like those of a Deltoid and the anal tufts, when fully expanded, are seen to be enormously developed. The genus seems to abound in extraordinary ornamentation; in *D. melanogaster* M. Guénée says, "Abdomen noirâtre en dessus, garni latéralement de poils carnés, à l'extrémité d'une brosse jaunâtre," which calm description hardly prepares one for the large expanded rose-coloured brushes of the moth.