

Figs. A and B represent the apex of the abdomen from above and beneath respectively.

Expanse of wings, ♂, 12 mm., ♀, 14 mm.

*Hab.*: Khasias. Three males and one female. (One male labelled "Khasias," the other examples labelled "Cherra Punji," two bearing the date vii-94).

One male broken up in working; the remaining examples in Mr. McLachlan's collection.

Another Oriental Hydroptilid has been described, *Plethus cursitans*, Hagen, from Ceylon, but it has nothing to do with the present species. It possesses 0, 2, 3 spurs, and is a very small insect. (*Hydroptilia cursitans*, Hagen, Verhandl. der z.-b. Ges., Wien, ix, p. 209, 1859; *Plethus cursitans*, Id., *ibid.*, 1887, pp. 643-5).

13, Blackford Road, Edinburgh:

October, 1902.

#### NOTE ON *ORTHEZIA FLOCCOSA*, DE GEER.

BY E. ERNEST GREEN, F.E.S., GOVERNMENT ENTOMOLOGIST, CEYLON.

Mr. C. French, Entomologist to the Victorian Department of Agriculture, has sent me examples of a Coccid found "on some wet timber at the 300 feet level, in a mine, in Gippsland, Australia." A truly remarkable situation in which to find living *Coccidæ*! The insect proves to be *Orthezia floccosa*, De Geer. European examples of this species are usually found amongst wet moss or sphagnum. It is possible that they may feed either on these mosses or upon *Algæ* associated therewith. These Australian examples may have been carried down from the surface with the timber used in the mine, and may have sustained themselves upon such cryptogamic plants during their sojourn underground. All the species of *Orthezia* appear to be able to exist for long periods without food (a characteristic found also in many *Monophlebinae*). These same insects survived the journey by post from Australia to Ceylon, absolutely without food, and are still living in the pill-box in which they were received.

In comparing them with European examples of the species, I noticed a character in *O. floccosa* which does not appear to have been remarked before, distinguishing it from all its allies, but associating it with *Ortheziola* of Sulc. The tibio-tarsal articulation is absent in all the legs, and the terminal joint of the antenna is apparently composed of two fused joints, forming a scape-like termination; the antennæ



thus consisting of seven distinct joints as opposed to eight in the other species. In *Ortheziola* the number is still further reduced, three only being apparent. Another remarkable character in *floccosa* is the very long basal joint of the antenna.

Signoret ("Essai," p. 424) considered *floccosa* to be a synonym of *urticæ*, L. ; but it seems evident to me that he has confused the two species in his description and figures. Plate xxi, fig. 1b, which Signoret suggests (with a query) may be the male larva of *urticæ*, really represents the adult of *floccosa*. His drawing correctly shows the fused tibio-tarsus and long terminal joint to the seven-jointed antenna ; it also indicates the unusually large basal joint.

This is the first record of an *Orthezia* from the Australasian region. I have compared the Australian specimens with examples from Bohemia and England ; they agree with the typical form in every particular.

With this connecting link it is a question whether *Ortheziola* should rank as more than a subgenus. Another subgenus might be erected for the species having fused tibio-tarsus with seven-jointed antennæ. I would suggest the name *NEWSTEADIA* for the proposed subgenus, in honour of an Entomologist whose valuable papers on *Coccidæ* have been a feature in the "Entomologist's Monthly Magazine" during the past decade. *Type* : *D. floccosa*, De G.

Peradeniya, Ceylon : August, 1902.

*Acletoxenus formosus* at Cambridge.—This species has again occurred here this summer. I was away from home during the whole of July. On August 4th I found one on my dressing room window. August 5th, four specimens ; August 10th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 20th, and 21st, one each day ; these last ten specimens in the garden.—F. JENKINSON, 10, Brookside, Cambridge : November 16th, 1902.

*Crinopteryx familiella*, Peyer., bred in England.—In my notes on this species (Ent. Mo. Mag., 1902, p. 93) I mentioned the oviposition. I have been very pleased during this month to rear about a score of specimens from eggs laid in my garden by moths sleeved out on *Cistus salvifolius*. I devoted most of these to endeavour to continue the experiment, but the weather has been so wet since they were sleeved out, that for this reason alone I fear this is the last of them. It is of interest that even so much can be done with a Micro-Lepidopteron of so definitely Mediterranean a type.—T. A. CHAPMAN, Betula, Reigate : October, 1902.



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