The Canadian Entomologist.

VOL. XII.

LONDON, ONT., NOVEMBER, 1880.

No. 11

NOTES ON ORTHOPTERA.

BY PROF. CYRUS THOMAS.

Œdipoda obliterata, nov. sp.

Male and female. Length to tip of elytra 1.50, to tip of abdomen 1.10 to 1.30. Pale reddish-brown or dull yellowish tinged with rufous, with irregular transverse bands of dark fuscous spots.

Occiput not prominent. Vertex broad, moderately deflexed, margins with sharp carinæ forming a distinct sub-quadrate, median foveola, which is divided into two equal sections by a distinct longitudinal, median carina that extends back part way upon the occiput; sides of the foveola parallel between the eyes, and bending abruptly inward toward the fastigium in front, continuous with the sides of the frontal costa; fastigium with a double indentation. Frontal costa slightly sulcate, sub-tricarinate at the fastigium, widening at the ocellus and extending nearly or quite to the clypeus, but not expanding below; in the male the width is about uniform throughout. Pronotum with the median carina sub-cristate, distinctly and deeply notched about the middle by the posterior sulcus; anterior portion irregularly arched, more elevated than the posterior portion, which has, only the front part arched; lateral carina irregular and indistinct; the notch of the median carina is of the oblique type, more distinctly so in the male than in the female. Posterior lobe expanding rapidly from the posterior sulcus; nearly flat on the disk, which is more or less covered with elongate rugosities, more distinct and numerous in the female than in the male; posterior extremity obtuse-angled; anterior margin extended in a very obtuse angle upon the occiput. Elytra extending about one-third their length beyond the abdomen, of medium width, sinuous and obliquely excised at the tip. Wings narrow, the length very nearly twice the width, and slightly undulate on the outer margin; the nervules unusually regular and straight. Posterior femora with sharp and elevated carinæ above and below. Antennæ rather short, scarcely flattened and very slightly accuminated at the tip.

Color (recent specimens dried).—Female somewhat darker than the male; face pale purplish, dotted with fuscous; occiput and pronotum fuscous brown, the latter with a carneous stripe along each lateral carina, which connect at the anterior sulcus and fade out near the posterior extremity; the disk of the posterior lobe dark brown. Elytra pale dirty yellow, slightly tinged with rufous, crossed by three irregular bands formed of dark fuscous spots, the middle one broadest and usually the best defined; apex with irregular cellular fuscous spots, those next the costal margin most distinct. Wings pellucid, with a narrow marginal, rather pale, fuscous band, commencing behind the sub-costal area, where it is broadest, narrowing and fading toward the anal angle; the nerves and nervules, except in the apical portion of the subcostal area and in the fuscous band, pale yellow or white. Posterior femora crossed externally and internally by three oblique fuscous bands; posterior tibiæ pale yellow, spines tipped with black.

One male and one female from Sierra Valley, California, furnished by Mr. J. G. Lemmon.

This species approaches very near Mr. Scudder's *Trachyrhachys*, but appears to belong to *Œdipoda* as at present limited; if Mr. Scudder's genus *Dissosteira* (of which he has given but an incomplete diagnosis) stands, this species will scarcely find a lodging place in any of the numerous genera of this group.

In his paper on the Orthoptera collected by Lieut. Wheeler's Survey, published in 1876, where he first proposes this genus, he makes the following statement: "Stal's limitations of the genus Œdipoda, in his "Recensio Orthopt. I., forces us to consider Gryllus coerulescens Linn. as "the type, and not, as stated by Thomas, Œdipoda carolina (Burm.)."

He alludes to a statement made in my paper on Orthoptera in a previous report of the same Survey, where I simply remarked that Stal has retained our Œ. carolina and that this "appears to be his typical [species]" (by typographical or clerical error, "genus"). By reference to Proceedings Davenport Acad. Nat. Sci., vol. 1, 1876, page 257, it will there be seen that I made the following statement in reference to the genus Œdipoda as given by Stal: "In my opinion Œ. coerulescens Linn. "is the proper type of Œdipoda." This paper was published in June and July, 1876, the entire manuscript having been forwarded to Mr. Putnam some time previous thereto. I can not give the exact date of pub-

lication of Mr. Scudder's paper, but his letter of transmittal to Lieut. Wheeler bears date Cambridge, Mass., May 29, 1876.

I simply mention this in justice to myself.

As I have here referred to this paper by Mr. Scudder, I may as well correct another error he has fallen into in reference to Anabrus Haldemanii Gir. He remarks (page 500) that "he [Thomas] further confuses "his readers by stating that A. Haldemanii Gir. has the prosternum dis- "tinctly spined, whereas it is as clearly amucronate as the prosternum of "A. simplex." He falls into this error because he has not, or had not then, seen a specimen of A. Haldemanii, which has the prosternum distinctly spined. The description and figure given in Marcy's Red River of Louisiana are so exact that with a true specimen in hand, as I now have before me, there is no possibility of making a mistake. This species is never, as I learn he supposes, found west of the Rocky Mountain range, nor A. simplex east of it, unless possibly in Montana.

Cratypedes Putnami Thos.

Mr. A. J. Chipman, who visited Southern Colorado this season on behalf of the U. S. Ent. Commission, was fortunate enough to obtain a fine specimen of this species, in color. From this I can now give the colors omitted in my original description: Base of the wings lemon yellow; hind tibiæ bright red. In the female the yellow spots of the elytra are not so distinct as in the male; the same is also true in reference to the dark bands on the posterior femora.

At the close of his "Century of Orthoptera" (Reprint from Proceedings Bost. Soc. Nat. Sci., vols. 12-20, 1879, pg. 84) Mr. Scudder, in speaking of *Hippiscus lineatus* Scudd., remarks as follows:

"Hippiscus lineatus. This species I had formerly described (in MSS.) under the new generic name Cratypedes, but before publishing concluded it best to include it in Hippiscus. I do not recollect that I have ever mentioned this name to any one and have never seen more than the single specimen of the species upon which I had proposed to found it, and which has never left my collection. It was therefore a complete mystery to me to find a closely allied species described by Mr. Thomas (Proc. Davenpt. Acad. Nat. Sci., I., 257-58) as Cratypedes Putnami, with the remark: 'I have placed this species in this genus with some 'hesitancy, yet it certainly agrees very closely with it.' I disclaim any proprietorship in the generic name, and do not know to what Mr.

"Thomas refers. This remark is offered simply to aid any future student who may search for the origin of the name."

This statement by Mr. Scudder indicates a forgetfulness on his part of what he has written, as the reader will see by referring to "List of Orthoptera collected by Dr. A. S. Packard in Colorado and the neighboring Territories, during the summer of 1875," pg. 267, where he will find the following statement: "Stenopelmatus oculatus and Cratypedes lineatus" are described from specimens dried after immersion in alcohol." This remark is offered simply to aid any future student who may search for the origin of the name.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF PAMPHILA FROM FLORIDA.

BY W. H. EDWARDS, COALBURGH, W. VA.

PAMPHILA BYSSUS.

Male.—Expands 1.6 inch.

Upper side dark glossy brown; the basal half of costa of primaries ferruginous, as well as a little of cell below adjoining; at the end of cell an irregular yellow-fulvous bar within; across disk a bent yellow-fulvous band, starting on costal margin about three-fifths the distance from base to apex, bending round cell and continued to middle of submedian nervure, narrow at top, but below cell widening rapidly; the basal half of inner margin washed fulvous. Secondaries have a fulvous patch on middle of disk, usually sub-ovate, but sometimes connected with a fulvous patch in cell which runs toward base; the hairs of basal area next inner margin fulvous; fringes of primaries dark gray-brown, of secondaries lighter.

Under side wholly ferruginous (individuals varying a little in shade), except that the posterior half of primaries from hind margin to base is blackish; the spots of upper side repeated indistinctly; on secondaries in most examples the surface is immaculate, in others there is a faint paler color indicating the patch of upper side; the nervures and branches on secondaries are a shade more yellow than the ground color.

Body above covered with fulvous hairs on black; beneath, the thorax



Thomas, Cyrus. 1880. "Notes on Orthoptera." *The Canadian entomologist* 12, 221–224. https://doi.org/10.4039/Ent12221-11.

View This Item Online: https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/22088

DOI: https://doi.org/10.4039/Ent12221-11

Permalink: https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/27284

Holding Institution

MBLWHOI Library

Sponsored by

MBLWHOI Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: NOT_IN_COPYRIGHT

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org.