

yellow and mauve and ringed with black, horn of medium length dull pink, legs dull pink, claspers green, from 5th to 10th segments it is profusely speckled with black and grey, dark dorsal line to 4th segment, spiracles pink with darker centres.

Length—100 mm.

Time of appearance.—May to July.

Food-plants.—*Aporosa villosa* (Euphorbiaceæ).

Pupa very dark, almost black on the head and wing cases, a pale mesial band on the ventral surface of the abdomen, variegated with black and brown of various shades tongue case and legs very prominent, dorsal surface reddish in colour with a distinct dark mesial line from base of thorax to end of abdomen. Cremaster more or less flattened wedge shaped with two small bristles at the extreme tip.

Length.—40-60 mm.

Time of pupation.—Throughout the year.

Situation.—Under fallen leaves in slight depression on surface of the ground at or near roots of food-plant.

C. E. F. MANSON.

PUGYI, LOWER BURMA, 15th June 1909.

#### NO. XXIV.—NEW LOCALITIES FOR RARE AND LITTLE KNOWN SPHINGIDÆ.

Occurrence of *Callambulyx poecilus* in Sikhim, and of *Chromis erotus* and *Macroglossum faro* in Burma.

It may interest collectors of Heterocera in India and Burma to know that I captured a specimen of *Callambulyx poecilus* (Roths) in Sikhim at an elevation of 6,000 ft. in May, and a specimen each of *Chromis erotus* (Cram.) and *Macroglossum faro* (Cram.) in Burma in August and October respectively.

C. E. F. MANSON.

MANDALAY, BURMA, 25th June 1909.

#### NO. XXV.—NOTE ON THE PRESENCE OF THE COCCID GENUS *MARGARODES* IN INDIA.

Amongst a collection of Coccidæ recently received from the Indian Museum, Calcutta, I have found specimens of what is undoubtedly the male of a species of *Margarodes*, an interesting genus that hitherto has never been recorded from the Indian Region.

The females of this genus are subterranean insects, feeding upon the roots of plants and often attended by ants. They secrete pearly shells which—in countries where the insect is common—are collected by the natives and strung into chains for personal ornaments. It is insects of this genus, also, that have probably given rise to the stories of living pearls that—when kept



in a pill-box and fed with grains of rice—increase and multiply, giving birth to numerous small pearls. Are such tales current in India? If so, may I ask Members of the Society to interest themselves in the matter and send me specimens for identification and description.

The male *Margarodes* is a two-winged insect, the expanded wings measuring about 8 mm. (approximately one-third of an inch). The wings are colourless and transparent, with the exception of a deep red thickened costal border. There are tufts of long silky white filaments arising from the upper surface of the abdomen. The specimens from the Calcutta Museum are labelled 'Jahada, Nepal, 14th November 1908'.

E. ERNEST GREEN.

PERADENIYA, CEYLON, 29th June 1909.

#### NO. XXVI.—TWO SPECIES OF "CHARA" FROM THE BOMBAY ISLAND.

Specimen No. 1 was collected on the 14th of November 1908, from a pool on the Vincent Road, Matunga, situated in the fields where rice is cultivated during the rains. The plant grew on the borders of the pool under water extending to knee-depth, entangled with the aquatic plant *Hydrilla verticillata* (*Serpiculla verticillata*—Roxb) which it resembles in general appearance, and was greatly interspersed with the filamentous Alga—*Edogonium scutatum*. I found great difficulty in separating the Chara plant from these filaments of the *Edogonium*. It appeared as if there was some commonsalism between these plants. The pool dries up in the hot weather during the months of April and May, so that it is difficult to say whether the Chara plant is an annual or a perennial plant. The plant is gritty and brittle on account of the deposition of carbonate of lime. The stem is stout and branched alternately. The internodes, when full grown, are about an inch in length. No adventitious rootlets were seen on the stem. Leaves are in whorls of 9, 10 or more. Each leaf is more than six-jointed and tapers singly at the end. The reproductive organs are borne upon the upper surface of the leaves, and at the joints of their basal half. The plant is monœcious, and fertilisation takes place during the night or very early in the morning. Both the organs are borne on the same node, the orange and globular antheridium being below the typical oogonium which is subtended by a few simple short-unjointed leaflets. The antheridium matures before the oogonium of the same node, and so the plant is protandrous.

Roxburgh in his "Flora of India" mentions some species of the genus Chara and describes one species, *Chara verticillata*, a native of India, including the genus Chara amongst the Flowering Plants which is unscientific. His *Chara verticillata*, however, has all the general characters of this specimen No. 1, and I would therefore name it as *Chara verticillata*.

Specimen No. 2 was collected on the 26th December 1908 from another pool



Green, Edward Ernest. 1909. "No. XXV. – Note on the presence of the coccid genus *Margarodes* in India." *The journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* 19, 761–762.

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