

NOTES ON SOME *NEUROPTERA-PLANIPENNIA* DESCRIBED BY
THE LATE MONS. A.-EDOUARD PICTET, IN HIS "NÉVROPTÈRES
D'ESPAGNE" (1865).

BY R. McLACHLAN, F.R.S., &c.

I have had the opportunity of studying certain of the late A.-E. Pictet's types, and subjoin the following notes:

Sialis nigripes, Ed. Pict., p. 52, pl. iv, figs. 1—5.—I do not find any differences whatever between this and *S. fuliginosa*, Pict. (père). The legs are not "glabres," as is stated, but finely pubescent, as is usual. The size is very small (the ♂ sometimes expanding to only 20 mm.). I have an equally small form of *S. lutaria* taken by the late Chev. V. Ghiliani at a great elevation on the confines of Piedmont and Canton Valais. I regard *S. nigripes* as identical with *S. fuliginosa*.

Chrysopa microcephala (Brauer), Ed. Pict., p. 60.—The examples are no doubt specifically identical with Brauer's insect. They are compared with *Ch. alba* in Pictet's description, but the real affinity is with *vulgaris*, and I know that Dr. Brauer is now of opinion that *microcephala* may be only a pale whitish form of *vulgaris*, which opinion I share. The former differs principally in the absence of reddish suffusion on the face, in a few of the basal nervules being slightly blackish at one end (those at the base of the costal area included), and in the dividing nervule of the third cubital cellule being often (not always) interstitiate with the nervule above it (instead of ending before it).

Chrysopa nigro-punctata, Ed. Pict., p. 60, pl. viii, fig. 4.—Certainly a good species. Of the three examples one wants the spots on the mesonotum and metanotum (as is indicated by Hagen in Stett. Zeit., 1866, p. 300), but has those on the pronotum. I saw a similar example from Barcelona forwarded by Sen. Cuni y Martorell.

Chrysopa viridana (Schneider), Ed. Pict., p. 61.—I think there can be no doubt as to the identity of the examples with Schneider's species, and Hagen is also of that opinion. Schneider's types were from near Naples. Pictet found it at Grenada, and at Eaux Bonnes in the French Pyrenees. I have an example from near Quillan, Aude (Eaton). In this (as also in Pictet's specimen from Eaux Bonnes) the costal nervules, &c., are not totally black, but have a pale median space.

Chrysopa geniculata, Ed. Pict., p. 62, pl. vii, figs. 5—8.—I do not feel sure that this is anything more than a small example of *viridana*. Only one individual was found.

Chrysopa Meyeri, Ed. Pict., p. 62, pl. viii, figs. 5—8.—Of the two

examples so labelled (both from the Pyrenees) one is perhaps *Ch. alba*, and does not agree with the description. The other, which must be regarded as the type, is very closely allied to *nigro-punctata*, and appears to differ chiefly in the face being suffused with sanguineous at the sides (indicated in fig. 7, but not in the description): this suffusion is still more strongly indicated in an example from Laruns, Basses Pyrénées (Eaton), in my collection. One should see long series of both *nigro-punctata* and *Meyeri* in order to ascertain if they be really distinct.

Chrysopa guadarramensis, Ed. Pict., p. 65, pl. vi, figs. 1—4.—I know not why neither Pictet nor Hagen (Stett. Zeit., 1866, p. 298) notices the very obvious relationship to *Ch. flava*, Scop. (*vittata*, Schnd., *nec* Wesmael), of which it has the characteristic strong excision of the costal margin of the anterior-wings (not sufficiently indicated in Pictet's figure). It may be distinct, or it may be only a local form of *flava*. The colour is paler, the pronotum has a distinct brown line on either side anteriorly, which I do not see in *flava*, the nervules more strongly spotted with black at the end, the gradate series almost wholly black. The individual is a ♀. Pictet compares it with *pallens*, Rambur, which appears to be *septempunctata*.

Chrysopa thoracica, Ed. Pict., p. 67, pl. vi, figs. 9—12.—Belongs to the group of forms in which there is a black spot between the antennæ, and a black dot at the extreme base of the costa in the anterior-wings. I have seen only one example, which is quite distinct from anything known to me, differing in the absence of spots on the top of the head, in the lunate red mark on the face below the base of each antenna, &c. The name *thoracica* was applied by Walker in 1853 (Cat. Brit. Mus. Neurop., pt. ii, p. 243) to a *Chrysopa* from St. Domingo, hence it becomes necessary to rename Pictet's insect:—I propose the term *Picteti*.

Chrysopa Zelleri (Schneider), Ed. Pict., p. 68.—Whether *Zelleri* is anything more than a form of the variable *aspersa* may be doubtful. The two posterior occipital points are smaller in Pictet's examples than in others I have from Zeller. The spot on the basal joint of the antennæ may be above, or outside, or absent altogether. I remark that a type of *Ramburii*, Costa, in my collection, is *Zelleri* and not ordinary *aspersa*; *neglectus*, Costa, is also evidently *Zelleri* from the description, as Hagen has already determined.

Chrysopa clathrata, Ed. Pict., p. 68.—I have three examples before me. They are certainly distinct from Schneider's *clathrata* from

Italy, Sicily, Dalmatia, &c. Taking the colour generally, as in dry examples, *clathrata* may be distinctly termed a dark insect, and *clathrata*, Pict., a pale one. The true *clathrata* has the sides of the thorax broadly margined with dark fuscous, the costal nervules entirely blackish or nearly so, and the other nervules with only a short pale median space. In Pictet's species the colour of the markings on the body is reddish-brown, the bands on thorax are not lateral, but sub-lateral, in the form of lines, leaving the margins pale; the nervules are much less marked with black, and in all cases (excepting the gradate series) only as a point at either end: the whole form is less robust; the markings on the face also differ, none of Pictet's examples show the spot between the antennæ of which he speaks (and it is not frequent in the true *clathrata*); the basal joint of the antennæ has often a brown line externally. I have seen Pictet's insect from no other quarter, and propose for it the name *lineolata*.

Chrysopa granadensis, Ed. Pict., p. 69, pl. vi, figs. 5—8.—A small species described from a single example. Apparently quite distinct. Possibly allied to *lineolata*.

Chrysopa riparia, Ed. Pict., p. 69, pl. vii, figs. 9—12.—Two examples are before me, in very bad condition.

Chrysopa monticola, Ed. Pict., p. 70, pl. vii, figs. 1—4.—From the French Pyrenees. Allied to *riparia*, but apparently distinct. The "tache semi-lunaire rouge devant les yeux" is not apparent in the only type with a head. It is probable that *nigro-punctata*, *Meyeri*, *riparia*, and *monticola* belong to the same group as *flavifrons* (Brauer), in which there is a black or brown dot at the extreme base of the costa in the anterior-wings, but no spot between the antennæ.

Chrysopa venosa (Rambur), Ed. Pict., p. 72.—One of the few species with simple claws. Otherwise this species has the form and facies of *Ch. perla*, and is allied thereto.

Chrysopa italica (Rossi), Ed. Pictet, p. 72.—This, as is well known, belongs to my genus *Nothochrysa*. It was not taken by Pictet, and I mention it only in order to call attention to a curious structure seen in an example once forwarded by Dr. Bolivar, of Madrid. In the abdomen of one sex (probably the ♂) there are concealed two long curved spines in a pouch between two of the apical ventral segments. I have seen them in no other example, owing to the pouch being closed, and neglected to take an exact description when the individual was before me.



McLachlan, Robert. 1880. "Notes on some Neuroptera-Planipennia described by the late Mons. A.-Edouard Pictet, in his "Névroptères d'Espagne" (1865)." *The Entomologist's monthly magazine* 17, 62–64.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/36506>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/34176>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

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>.