

**Parachernes ronnaii, a New Genus and Species
of False Scorpion from Brazil
(Arachnida-Chelonethida).**

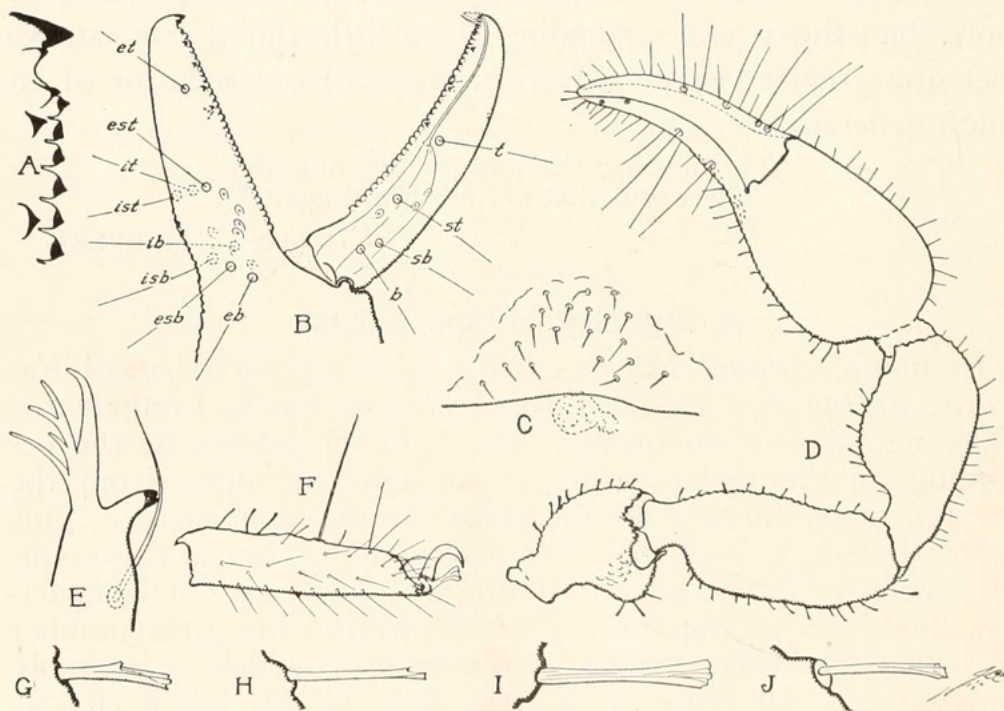
By JOSEPH CONRAD CHAMBERLIN,
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I am indebted to Dr. Antonio Ronna of Caxias, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, for the specimen upon which this paper is based. I take pleasure in dedicating this interesting species to its discoverer.

PARACHERNES gen. nov.

Orthotype. *Parachernes ronnaii* sp. nov. Brazil.

Diagnosis. Typical cheliferoid genus belonging to the family Chernetidae, and related to *Chernes*, *Hesperochernes*, and *Dinocheirus*. Eye spots present but inconspicuous; carapace of usual form and provided with two procurved transverse furrows;



Parachernes ronnaii gen. and sp. nov. ♀.

A. Tip of fixed finger of chela showing type of dentition. Note accessory as well as marginal teeth. B. Exterior aspect of right chela showing chaetotaxy, dentition, and venom apparatus. C. Genital operculum. D. Ventral aspect of left pedipalpus or cheliped. E. Galea. F. Tarsus of leg IV. G, H, I, J. Characteristic types of setae. G, from anterior face of tibia of pedipalp; H, from fourth pedal tibia; I, from pedipalpal trochanter and J, from pedal femur. All same scale of magnification.

flagellum of 3 blades; sexual development of galea unknown but probably dimorphic; the normal 5 setae of palm of chelicera present, b and sb showing typical terminal denticles as in *Hesperochnes*; lamina interior with dentate terminal tooth and 3 dentate subterminal lobes; basal lamella of serrula exterior elongated to about twice normal length and acute; other lamellae of typical ligulate form. The chaetotaxy of the chela differs markedly from that occurring in *Chernes*, *Hesperochnes*, or *Dinocheirus* and is characterized principally by a marked basal concentration of the interior series of tactile setae (fig. B). Sense spots occur on both fixed and mobile fingers of the chela but are few (fig. B). Chela provided with accessory teeth both interiorly and exteriorly (fig. A and B). Venom duct of long type, the nodus ramosus lying barely proximad of the terminal seta of the movable finger (fig. B). Dorsal sclerites of body and most of pedipalps beset by thickened, scarcely clavate, terminally dentate setae (fig. G-J). Expanded abdomen normally ovate, extending well beyond the fourth legs when these are normally flexed. All tergites and sternites except the eleventh longitudinally divided into scutae by a relatively broad membranous strip; each bearing the usual border series of 14 to 16 setae. Posterior tergites normal, definitely transverse (*not recurved*). Eleventh tergite bearing a lateral pair of pseudotactile setae, the 11th sternite with a submedian pair. Female genital area characterized by a loose cluster of about 20 short acute setae (fig. C) much as occurs in *Hesperochnes*. Legs typical, claws and subterminal setae simple; fourth tibia without tactile seta; tactile seta of tarsus IV half as long as tarsus and placed midway between the base and tip of the segment (fig. F). Tracheal trunks without internal papillate projections.

Remarks. From all previously named segregates of *Chernes*, *Parachernes* differs markedly in the chaetotaxy of the chela; from *Hesperochnes* it differs in possessing a 3 instead of 4 bladed flagellum; from *Hesperochnes* and *Chernes sens. str.* it differs in the possession of a tactile seta on the 4th tarsus; from *Dinocheirus*, *Hesperochnes*, and *Chernes* it differs in the non-clavate setae of the dorsal sclerites and pedipalps; from *Dinocheirus* and *Chernes* it differs in having the sub-basal and basal setae of the chelicerae both terminally dentate. In the absence of a male example the presence or absence of sexual dimorphism in the chela can not be directly ascertained. The

following considerations may, however, yield a clue as to the facts in the case. The orthotype of the genus seems to find its nearest described relative in "*Chernes*" *michaelsoni* Sim. as redescribed by With.¹ With's redescription was based upon a single male. According to his figures the chaetotaxy, etc., of the chela is quite similar to that here figured for *P. ronnaii*, and it is likely that the two are congeneric. He represents the chela fingers as clearly gaping. From this we may tentatively infer that the chela is sexually dimorphic in *Parachernes*. Since With would rarely describe as new a species which by any possibility could be assigned to one already named, it is impossible to be sure that *michaelsoni* Simon and *michaelsoni* (Sim.) With are really the same species because of the serious inadequacy of Simon's original description as seen in the light of present knowledge.

***Parachernes ronnaii* sp. nov. (Figs. A-J)**

Holotype, ♀, (JC-716. 01001) taken clinging to a fly at Caxias (Rio Grande do Sul), Brazil, by Dr. Antonio Ronna. Deposited in Stanford University Collections.

Diagnosis. Anterior carapacial furrow most distinct of the two, median in position and laterally procurved; posterior furrow nearer posterior carapacial margin than anterior furrow and only slightly procurved laterally. Carapace longer than broad behind, bordered posteriorly by 12 short thickened setae. Scutae of third tergite narrower than either those preceding or succeeding; tergites bordered by about 14 to 16 thickened setae each, the median ones at least bearing in addition a single slender and slightly subclavate, terminally denticulate seta anterior to the marginal series on either side. Each tergal scutum with a weak central spot. Fingers of chela with about 32 or 33 well defined slightly retro-conical marginal teeth (fig. A and B); with an exterior series 3 and 4 evenly spaced, small and inconspicuous accessory teeth exteriorly on the movable and fixed fingers of the chela respectively (fig. B); interiorly there is on either finger a single large accessory tooth about 1/3 removed from finger tip (fig. B); sense spots sub-basal exteriorly on both fingers and interiorly on the fixed finger (fig. B). Palps as illustrated (fig. D); maxilla smooth except on post-

¹ With, Carl. 1908. Cheliferinae. Trans. Zool. Soc. London 18:282. Figs. 22 a-c.

clivus; remainder of palps, except posteriorly on tibia and chela and on fingers, evenly granulate and beset by thickened setae (fig. G and I). Trochanter with a distinctly conical protuberance or heel behind, 1.3 times as long as broad; femur typical, 2.3 times as long as broad; tibia normal, subequal to femur in length, 2.1 times as long as broad and 1.2 times as long as hand; chela 2.7 times as long as broad and almost 1.3 times as long as breadth of trochanter; fingers scarcely longer than hand but clearly longer than its breadth; hand very slightly broader than deep and 1.3 times as long as broad. Chelicerae typical, galea with 6 branches (fig. E). Length of adult, ♀ 2.1 mm.

A New Louse from Domestic Chickens (Mallophaga: Philopteridae).

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During a collecting trip in the southern Bahama Islands in the summer of 1930 I found a new biting louse (order Mallophaga) on the heads of chickens in four localities. The common chicken head louse (*Lipeurus heterographus* Nitzsch) was not found. Four other species of lice common on chickens throughout the world were found in connection with the new species; namely, the wing louse (*Lipeurus caponis* Linn.), the fluff louse (*Goniocotes hologaster* Nitz.), the shaft louse (*Menopon gallinae* Linn.), and the brown chicken louse (*Goniodes dissimilis* Nitz.). According to the natives, the original stock of their poultry was obtained from Haiti or Santo Domingo, so this is evidently a tropical species. This is further evidenced by the fact that specimens from domestic chickens from Venezuela and Liberia were found in the collection of the National Museum.

***Lipeurus tropicalis* n. sp.**

Described from 42 individuals collected from chickens in the Bahama Islands, by myself, as follows: Four males, two females, and one immature form from Great Ragged Island, July 3, 1930 (Bishopp No. 15063); eight males, nine females, and one immature form from Providenciales, Caicos Islands, July 23, 1930 (Bishopp No. 15144); one male, one female,



Chamberlin, Joseph C. 1931. "Parachernes ronnaii, a new genus and species of false scorpions from Brazil (Arachnida-Chelonethida)." *Entomological news* 42, 192–195.

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