NOTES ON SYNONYMY OF DIPTERA.

By J. M. Aldrich, *U. S. National Museum.*

1. Coquillett described *Thryptocera atripes* in his revision of North American Tachinidae, 1897, p. 58. The single type specimen he called a female, and stated that it was collected by Dr. Garry deN. Hough at New Bedford, Mass. Examination of the type convinced me long ago that it was misplaced in the genus Thryptocera, but although it looked familiar, I did not until recently get it located in the proper genus. It belongs to Phantasiomyia Townsend (Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc., vol. 23, 1915, p. 225, the type and sole original species being *gracilis*, new, from Beulah, N. M.). The Coquillett type is a male, not a female, but otherwise agrees with the description, except that the trochanters are conspicuously yellow. It has two labels, "Mas." and "Collection Coquillett." The latter label is quite uniformly used for material that Coquillett brought to Washington with him when he came from Los Angeles about 1893. As the species has not been found in the East since its publication, and Townsend's *gracilis* occurs in the Southwest only, it is very probable that the "Mas." label was put on this specimen by mistake, and it really came from Southern California. Townsend's *gracilis* was described from three males taken at Beulah, N. M., two of which are now in the National Museum; we also have three males collected later by Townsend in Cave Creek Canyon, Chiricahua Mts., Ariz., and one female collected by him at Cherry Creek Buttes, Ariz. The two species under discussion are very much alike; *gracilis*, however, has the front slightly more prominent at the antennae, the tip of the wing in male not distinctly infuscated, and the abdomen not red at sides.

Skinner reported *Thryptocera atripes* Coq. from Beulah, N. M., in his list of the insects of that place (Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., vol. 29, 1903, p. 105). The material was identified by Coquillett, and was collected by both Cockerell and Skinner. Mr. Cresson recently informed me, in response to an inquiry, that no specimens under that name are to be found in the Academy of Natural Sciences. Since one of the types of *Phantasiomyia gracilis* in the National Museum was collected by Cockerell in 1902, it may fairly be presumed that the record properly belongs to this species.

Townsend places the genus, I think correctly, in the tribe Minthoini, of which our most common North American species is *Paradidyma singularis* Tns.

2. In Stettiner Entomologische Zeitung, vol. 88, 1927, pp. 102–109, Dr. Enderlein has published No. XIX of his "Dip-

terologische Studien." Several of his new genera are American; and a few may appropriately be commented upon here. He proposes Cliochloria n. g., designating *Chrysomyza aenea* Fab. as type. This is a cosmopolitan species mentioned as such by Knab, Bull. Brook. Ent. Soc., xi, 1916, 42, fig., who reports it from Louisiana. His excellent figure of the wing of *demandata* Fab. (type of Chrysomyza) and of *aenea* Fab., shows how very slight the difference is between the open and the petiolate apical cell, which is the only character mentioned by Enderlein for his new genus. In my opinion Cliochloria is a synonym of Chrysomyza.

He proposes Polphopsis n. g. on p. 107, designating *Richardia telescopica* Jaennicke as type. He examined Jaennicke's type, and says that the widening of the head reached 11 mm. when the body length is only 7.5 mm. In a series of eleven males and two females in the National Museum (Panama, Costa Rica, collected by Busck, Schaus, Mann) the width of the head in the male varies from 3.5 to 9.8 mm. while in the female it is only 2.4 mm. or barely wider than the thorax, and about the same as in other species of Richardia. Enderlein's new genus therefore rests upon a highly variable male character, which is evidently insufficient.

On page 108 he proposes Cnemoplegas n. g., designating *Desmometopa latipes* Mg. (originally Agromyza) as type. Hendel designated the same species as type of his new genus Prodesmometopa in Suppl. Ent., no. 3, Jan., 1914, p. 97; and in Ent. Mitteil., vol. 8, 1919, p. 200, he makes this a synonym of his earlier genus Hypaspistomyia (Wien. Ent. Zeit., xxvi, 1907, 240, type *coquilletti*, new, from Arabia). This genus is admittedly very similar to Desmometopa; if it has any sufficient basis at all, it is the protuberant "prelabrum," or middle of face, the other characters being negligible, as I would think. I have not seen *coquilletti*, but I have compared the genotype of Desmometopa with *latipes*.

On page 108 he has Euestelia n. g. with *Rhicnoessa coronata* Lw. designated as type. Williston established the genus Pelomyia for this species (as *occidentalis* n. sp.) in North American Fauna No. 7, 1893, p. 259. Sturtevant has discussed the synonymy and generic relations fully in Amer. Mus. Novitates, No. 76, 1923, p. 6.

On page 109 he proposes Cliorismia n. g. with *Psilocephala ardea* Fab. (originally Rhagio) designated as type. This genus includes all species of Psilocephala having the fourth posterior cell petiolate. Cole says about this character in Psilocephala (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., vol. 62, art. 4, 1921, p. 8): "The cell M-3 is open or closed, there being a certain amount of variation here, but the character usually holds for the species." He does not use it in his keys to North American Psilocephalas,

except as a secondary character for certain females. Kröber says (Genera Ins., 148 fasc., 1913, p. 4, transl.): "The fourth posterior cell is in the same species sometimes open, sometimes closed in the margin, and sometimes long petiolate, so that the genera and even species based on this character are untenable." The opinions of such revisers should be respected. Dr. Enderlein states that the type species of Psilocephala is *Thereva nigripennis* Ruthe, overlooking Coquillett's designation of *Bibio imberbis* Fall. in 1910 (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 37, p. 597); this discrepancy however does not affect the generic question, as both species go into the same group.

3. In Insecutor Inscitiae Menst., vol. 12, 1924, p. 145, I stated that Townsend's *Charapemyia calida* is the male of his earlier *Neotrafoia incarum*, as indicated by additional material in the National Museum. My conclusion is contradicted by Townsend in a recent article in Journal of the N. Y. Ent. Soc. (vol. 36, 1928, p. 91). He states that he has never obtained the female of *Charapemyia calida*, but has obtained the male of Neotrafoia in three localities in Peru, in which country the types of both species were obtained by him. Without giving any description of the male of Neotrafoia, he goes on to say,—"There are no less than thirteen important generic distinctions between *C. calida* and *N. incarum*, the two most striking being in the ocellar bristles and the proboscis. Throughout the Muscoidea, the direction in which the ocellars is inclined is always practically the same in the two sexes. The proboscis of Charapemyia is much stouter and shorter than that of Neotrafoia and of quite distinct type. The wings of Neotrafoia are conspicuously blackish on costa from stigma to tip of R3, while in *calida* they are perfectly clear. This last character easily separates the two species."

In considering these statements, obviously I must interpret them in the light of the type specimens in the National Museum (not seen by Townsend at the time of writing), as well as other specimens which have been accumulated here. In the first place, I have in my former article discussed the ocellars. Second, the proboscis in the two alleged genera is of substantially the same size and form, no differences appearing which seem to me to suggest a specific distinction, much less a generic one. In the type of *incarum* the proboscis is fully extended, in that of *calida* it is retracted, but it is extended in the paratype. Measuring the latter with a micrometer, it is found that the lateral sclerite of the joint beyond the elbow is 15 units long, while the same sclerite in the type of *incarum* is 18 units. In both specimens the head height is the same, 37 units. As to the stoutness of the segment, it is not practicable to get an exact

figure, as the organ in *incarum* has become a trifle compressed in drying; there is, however, no material difference in the two specimens. Third, as to the darkening of the costa in Neotrafoia, it does not occur in the type as Townsend now states. His original description says, "Wings clear," which is correct. Two other females from Peru have the wing clear, while a third has the costal darkening which Townsend now attributes to the species. If this is specific, which I greatly doubt, it pertains to a new species, not to *incarum*. The type *calida* has the veins bordered with brown, not forming a costal border; but the paratype has the wings clear as in the *incarum* type. These variations in infuscation do not seem important.

Since my first comment on this case, two additional specimens, male and female, have been discovered in the collection. They were both taken on the campus of the University of Colorado by Professor Cockerell. The male matches one of Townsend's species and genera, the female the other, which evidently strengthens the evidence that the two species are identical. Our series of twenty specimens, ranging from Peru to Colorado, seems to me entirely conclusive.

In the description of Neotrafoia, Townsend mentions on the scutellum of the type a median erect bristle just above the apex of the scutellum, a character he had never seen before. This occurs on every one of our series, in both sexes, and is certainly a very peculiar character. The unpaired median bristle which Townsend noted on the disk of the scutellum is usually paired in our series.

AN ANNOTATED LIST OF SOME PARASITIC INSECTS.

F. W. Poos, *Entomologist, Virginia Truck Experiment Station, Norfolk, Va.*

The parasitic insects listed below, with their respective hosts, were reared in eastern Virginia during the seasons of 1926 and 1927. The great importance of our beneficial forms of insects can not easily be gainsaid. The sixty-three species of parasites which are listed here, together with their different hosts, were collected and reared for the most part at odd times. Since these records in some instances show new distribution and new host associations for the parasitic species they are deemed worthy of publication. Except where otherwise indicated, the collecting and rearing were done by the writer. No attempt at completeness was made except in the case of the parasites of the potato tuber worm, *Phthorimaea operculella* Zell. Fourteen parasitic species were reared from this host in Virginia during 1926 and 1927, making a total of twenty-six that have now been reported in the North American literature.