

THE MALLOPHAGAN PARASITES OF THE KEA.

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THE notorious sheep-destroying parrot of New Zealand, the Kea (*Nestor notabilis* Gould), has not hitherto been examined to see what, if any, parasites help to make life troublesome for it as itself works misery for the New Zealand flocks. The Kea feeds on carrion mostly, but has also the deplorable habit of alighting on a sheep's back and tearing away the flesh until it gets at the kidney fat, which it eats with depraved relish. It then flies away, leaving its unfortunate victim to suffer until death mercifully comes to it.

Specimens of Mallophaga sent me by Mr. D. L. Van Dine, Entomologist of the U. S. Experiment Station at Honolulu, obtained by him from Mr. Brigham, Director of the Bishop Museum, show that Kea has some troubles of its own. In a vial of Mallophaga collected from the Kea in New Zealand there are three species of these parasites representing the genera *Lipeurus*, *Colpocephalum* and *Menopon*. All of these can be referred to already described species but curiously enough only one of them is a species typical of parrots, the other two being recorded only from true raptorial birds.

Lipeurus circumfasciatus Piaget, var. *kea* Kellogg. Males and females from the Kea, *Nestor notabilis* (New Zealand). Differs from the species type in the much larger size and the absence of even the slightest angular projection on 3rd segment of the male, and the presence of a distinct, although small, lateral projection on the 4th segment. Male, length, 2.30 mm., width .6 mm., female length 3 mm., width .61 mm.

Colpocephalum setosum Piaget. Several females from the Kea, *Nestor notabilis* (New Zealand). Differs markedly from any *Colpocephalum* so far described from parrots and is undoubtedly identical with Piaget's *C. setosum* described from the vulture, *Cathartes gryphus* (Zool. Garden of Rotterdam).

Menopon fulvofasciatum Piaget var. *kea* Kellogg. Three adult males and several young from a Kea, *Nestor notabilis* (New Zealand). Although differing in some details and a little larger than the type these specimens can probably be referred to Piaget's *M. fulvofasciatum* described from *Buteo vulgaris*. The Kea specimens are certainly unlike any *Menopon* previously recorded from the parrots. The differences which distinguish the Kea specimens from typical *fulvofasciatum* are the additional spines in lateral angles of prothorax, a difference in the ninth abdominal

segment which is *not* abruptly distinguished from the eighth as in the species type, the more strongly colored lateral ends of the transverse abdominal blotches, and the slightly larger size, the males being fully 2 mm., long, while *fulvofasciatum* is recorded as but 1.6 mm. in length (male).

THE HEMIPTERA OF JAMAICA.

NOTES ON JAMAICAN HEMIPTERA: A Report on a Collection of Hemiptera made on the Island of Jamaica in the spring of 1906. By E. P. Van Duzee (Bull. Buffalo Soc. Nat. Sci., VIII, No. 5, 1907). Our knowledge of the Hemiptera of Jamaica is greatly increased by this valuable paper, in which are recorded 236 with notes on distribution, etc. Of the above number 85 were new to science, the author describing about 54 species while the remainder belonging to the family Capsidæ were described by Dr. O. M. Reuter in the Of. Finsk Vet-Soc. Forhandl., XLIX, No. 5, 1907. The author is to be congratulated on doing such a splendid month's work under adverse climatic conditions. It clearly shows the value of specialization. The locality Rivington, N. J., on pages 24 and 69 should read 'Riverton.'

C. W. J.

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ERRATA.—Readers of *PSYCHE* are requested to make corrections as following in the articles by Mr. A. A. Girault as printed in the current volume:

Hosts of Insect Parasites.

XIV, 1907, p. 30, 4th line from bottom, *Trissoleus* read *Trissolcus*.

p. 37, 15th line from bottom, *Townsend* read *Townend*.

last line, *Chales* read *Charles*.

p. 38, 8th line from bottom, *Drew* read *Dru*.

p. 39, 7th line *Catalogs* read *Catalogus*.

Colorado Potato Beetle.

p. 47, 3rd paragraph, *cruciform* read *eruciform*.

p. 52, line 4, *is* read *its*.



Kellogg, Vernon L. 1907. "The mallophagan parasites of the kea." *Psyche* 14, 122–123. <https://doi.org/10.1155/1907/594183>.

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