

# BULLETIN

OF THE

## BROOKLYN ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

---

VOL. XVIII

DECEMBER, 1923

No. 5

---

### A SALDID GENUS NEW TO THE UNITED STATES AND A NEW SPECIES, WITH NOTES ON OTHER WATER BUGS FROM THE ADIRONDACKS.

BY J. R. DE LA TORRE-BUENO, White Plains, N. Y.

The northern mountain region of the State of New York is distinctly boreal in fauna, with affinities to the Palaearctic forms, and, at times, even identity of species, as, for example, the Pentatomid *Sciocoris microphthalmus*, a distinctly European species, reported from Mt. Marcy.

In the few species represented in this small collection made in the Adirondacks by Mr. Howard Notman (to whose kindness I am indebted for these interesting insects) there is the usual series of widespread forms. These include *Notonecta variabilis* Fieb., *N. undulata* Say, *N. insulata* Kirby, *Microvelia americana* Uhler, the abundant and country-wide *Acanthia interstitialis* Say, the common black *A. major* Prov., the rarer *A. separata* Uhler and *A. reperta*, the ubiquitous *Micracanthia humilis* Say, and the infrequent *Lampracanthia coriacea* Uhler. Most interesting of all are the three specimens of *Chartoscirta cursitans*, the new species here described.

There are also six species of Corixidae, unfortunately unnamed as yet, since this group continues in an unsatisfactory condition in spite of the work of Abbott and of Hungerford. There are no adequate tables except for a few of the species; and the characters employed are not always clean-cut and absolute. Abbott's opinion expressed personally was that the group is still in a plastic, formative condition; and that congeries of forms show considerable fluctuation around some one species as a mean, from which they



differ perhaps varietally, although as between each one of the radiating forms the differences assume specific proportions. Be this as it may, as yet it is not possible either to name our forms with certainty or to say how many valid species we have in the East; nor to control them adequately and distinguish the old from the undescribed.

Here follow the actual records:

*Notonecta variabilis* Fieb., Tivoli, Dutchess Co., 17 May, '21; Black R., Lowville, Lewis Co., June 26, '21. Reported from northern New York by Drake.

*N. undulata* Say, Tivoli, May 26, '21; Keene Valley, Essex Co., May 30, '20; Mt. Marcy, Essex Co., July 25 and 27, '17. This species has already been reported by Van Duzee and Drake from this region.

*N. insulata* Kirby, Mt. Marcy, July 27, '17. These three species are widespread and reported throughout the northern part of the country.

*Acanthia major* Prov., Wallface Mt., Essex Co., July 9, '22. Five specimens of this not rare form already reported by Van Duzee and Drake.

*A. interstitialis* Say, Canisteo, Steuben Co., June 3-8, '22; Lake Tear, Mt. Marcy, Essex Co., July 27, '22; Oakfield, Genesee Co., June 21 and 26, '22; Indian Pass, Essex Co., July 10, '22; Wallface Mt., July 13, '22. There are numerous specimens of this widespread and common variable species which, because of misidentifications, has labored under various names. Van Duzee has already reported it under the name *pallipes* Fabr., and so has Drake in a recent paper, as well as under its own proper name.

*A. separata* Uhler, Lake Tear, July 27, '22; Oakfield, June 26, '22; Wallface Mt., July 9 and 10, '22; Indian Pass, July 10, '22.

*A. reperta* Uhler, Wallface, July 13, '22.

*Micracanthia humilis* Say, Lake Tear, July 27, '22; Nichols, Tioga Co., May 5, '22; Canisteo, June 3 and 8, '22; Wallface Mt., July 9 and 11, '22. This active and pretty little species is most widespread throughout the Atlantic seaboard, these present records notably extending its published distribution in the State.

*Lampracanthia coriacea* Uhler, Wallface Mt., July 9 and 11, '22; Ft. Hunter, Montgomery Co., May 31, '21; Oakfield, June 26, '22.



This species is worthy of notice, since it has been put by Reuter in his genus above, together with *L. crassicornis* Uhler, which is the type. It does not appear to belong here, for reasons to be set forth at length in a revision of the family at present in progress. Among the differential characteristics are the size, facies, head structure, character of hemielytra and antennae, and others. In my present understanding, this species is the macropterous form of *anthracina* Uhler, over which the name has priority. All the differential structural characters given in the description of *anthracina* arise from its brachyptery. This instance is also pertinent to my remarks on fixed structural characters (this BULLETIN, xviii: pp. 138-143).

**Chartoscirta (Chartolampra) cursitans n. sp.**

*Head*: In natural position, as seen from above,  $\frac{1}{2}$  wider than long, two long wedge-shaped yellow glabrous calli narrowing anteriorly, next the eyes and beginning on a line drawn behind and tangent to the ocelli; back of head scabrous; a deep vertical sulcus anteriorly, not extending beyond the eyes, set in an oval trough, the sloping sides of which are transversely rugulose; the front with a transverse strongly sinuate carina callused laterally, starting at the eyes. *Eyes* converging anteriorly, as long as their farthest distance apart; *ocelli* subcontiguous, on a line with the glabrous wedge; *antennae* longer than the length of the head, thorax and scutellum taken together, segment I stoutest, shortest, slightly curved, set with a few fine spines or coarse bristles; II nearly as long as III and IV taken together, slender, setose; III and IV subequal, slightly stouter than II, IV subfusiform and slightly stouter

I      II      III      IV

than III; formula:  $\frac{\quad}{10}$ ,  $\frac{\quad}{45}$ ,  $\frac{\quad}{25}$ ,  $\frac{\quad}{23}$ ; a pronounced

tubercle anterior to the insertion of the antennae. *Rostrum* going beyond the middle coxae (the extremity concealed by the mounting, which obscures the joints), of the typical structure; clypeus pointed, slightly longer than wide. *Prothorax* about twice as wide posteriorly as long at the median line, anteriorly  $\frac{1}{5}$  wider than long, deeply excavate posteriorly; callus well-marked, with a deep central round fovea, with rugulae radiating irregularly therefrom; flattened part behind the callus irregularly transversely rugulose. *Scutellum* slightly longer than broad, the transverse impression slightly nearer the base than the apex, the part anterior to the impression



more or less shagreened and the posterior coarsely transversely rugulose. *Sternum* too much obscured by mounting for description.

*Hemelytra* dull with short gray hairs; veins obsolete, except the claval suture and the main corial vein, the others represented by thickenings of the corium; membrane with four cells, the apex of the first set about  $\frac{1}{3}$  above the apex of the second, the two middle cells narrow, the fourth cell widest; corial margin widest on a line drawn through the posterior end of the commissure, explanate and slightly recurved anteriorly, wider than the thorax and with a narrow reflexed edge; commissure  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of the scutellum. General color piceous to black with a few white or yellow spots; membrane yellowish with darker cloudings.

*Legs*: All three pairs long and evidently adapted for rapid movement; anterior femora but slightly thicker than the others, about twice as stout as tibiae, which are slightly enlarged apically; tibia subequal to femur; coxa  $\frac{2}{5}$  as long as tibia; 2d and 3d tarsal segments subequal; claws simple, moderate; tibiae set with stout bristles and spines. Middle femora of same proportional stoutness, slightly longer than tibiae (60:55); tarsal segments 2 and 3 subequal; tibia set with bristles and long scattered spines, which are quite abundant at the extremity and extend to the tarsi. Third femora of the same proportional thickness and same vestiture as others,  $\frac{1}{2}$  as long as tibiae (55:110); 3d tarsal segment  $\frac{3}{4}$  length of 2d (15:20); tibial and tarsal spines as in other segments, claws similar.

*Abdomen*: Female, simple, the terminal rounded segment as long medially as the preceding three taken together; segments 4 to 6 of equal length throughout and subequal to each other; segment 3 medially of equal length to the others, but slightly longer at the connexivum, where it is subequal to segment 2; structure of segment one concealed by coxae; polished black with sparse gray hairs; extremity of female 7th segment oval in outline, quite recurved, ovipositor projecting beyond it and visible beyond the hemelytra from above; male genital plate narrower and longer than female, roundedly prominent, claspers and other genitalia dorsal and concealed by the hemelytra, the other segments much as in the female.

*Female*: Length to tip of hemelytra, 4.64 mm.

Greatest width, 2.2 mm.

Head, long, .6 mm.; wide, 1.14 mm.

Thorax, long, .66 mm.; width, anterior, .9 mm.; width, posterior, 1.4 mm.

Scutellum, long, .9 mm.; wide, 1 mm.



*Male:* Length, 4.15 mm.  
Width, 1.75 mm.  
Head, long, .6 mm.; wide, 1.1 mm.  
Thorax, long, .6 mm.; width, anterior, .72 mm.;  
width, posterior, 1.3 mm.  
Scutellum, long, .86 mm.; wide, .9 mm.

(*Note:* All longitudinal measurements are along the median line; all widths are maximum; measurements and proportions worked out under eyepiece micrometer; description drawn up under binocular,  $\times 10$  eyepiece  $\times 40$  objective.)

The color is an ordinary dark and light pattern on the hemielytra, which might be called characteristically saldid. Head black, but the frontal calli at times are yellow; thorax black; scutellum black, legs parti-colored, lighter basally at joints. This does not purport to be a meticulous color description, which might fit one specimen, but no other in a series. Those familiar with saldids will have no difficulty in forming an idea of this; others must pin their faith to the structural details.

*Type:* Female, Lake Tear, Mt. Marcy, Essex Co., N. Y., July 27, 1922. *Paratypes:* 2 males, same data. Collected by Mr. John D. Sherman, Jr.; in collection of the author.

This species runs to sec. *ii* of Stål's key in *Synopsis Saldarum Sueciae* (Öfv. Kong. Vet. Ak. Forh., 1868, no. 6, p. 393), but its greater length indicates its difference. In Reuter's *Species palae-arcticae generis Acanthia Fabr., Latr.* (Act. Soc. Scien. Fenn., XXI, no. 2, pp. 5 and 52), it runs to *Chartoscirta*, but differs from that genus in not being much narrowed anteriorly; in the callus extending much behind the middle of the pronotum; and in the secondary color-pattern. It also runs to *Chartoscirta* in Reuter's key in *Zur generischen Teilung der paläarktischen und nearktischen Acanthiaden* (Öfv. Finsk. Vet.-Soc. Handl., Bd. LIV, no. 12, pp. 9-10 and 23), but does not quite agree in all characters. From the generic characterization (p. 23) it differs in the rostrum going *beyond* the middle coxae, the callus extending far backward behind the middle of the thorax, pushing the bounding sulcus likewise far back; the scutellum as broad as long; and the third posterior tarsal joint shorter than the second. It might seem to come near *Lampracanthia*, but for the differences in antennal structure—the last two joints not notably thickened—and the sericeous and dull sur-



face of the hemielytra as against the glabrous and highly polished surface in the genus mentioned. This species may eventually be referred to a new genus, but at the moment it may be at best regarded as representing a new subgenus, which we may call *Chartolampra*, since it partakes of the characters of both genera. *Chartoscirta* (*Chartolampra*) *cursitans* here described is the type of the subgenus.

*Microvelia americana* Uhler, Canisteo, June 3, '22. A new locality for this not uncommon and universal species of the genus.

Here is another instance of the novelties in Hemiptera that we may confidently expect if there is the least effort made to collect them. It may seem importunate to dwell on this subject so continuously, but since there are other orders and other insects than those contained in two or three of the better-known and more collected orders, it sometimes appears opportune to draw attention to them.

And, furthermore, the activity in the preparation of the long-expected New York State List of Insects makes it imperative to secure all possible material for it.

---

### Notes on *Calpodes Ethlius* Cramer. (Lepidoptera Rhopalocera.)

BY E. L. BELL, Flushing, N. Y.

During the first part of August, 1923, Miss Louise Knobel, of Hope, Arkansas, kindly sent to me several pupae of this large Hesperid, which she obtained by raising the larvae collected on canna in her neighborhood.

She states that this is the first time she has found this species in her locality and inquiries among her neighbors failed to obtain any other record of its former occurrence there.

The butterflies were first observed by her in early June and have since been appearing in increasing numbers and doing considerable damage to the cannas.

Miss Knobel also says that the most larvae are found on the green-leaved plants bearing red flowers, fewer larvae on the plants bearing pink flowers or those having reddish leaves and rarely any on those bearing yellow flowers.



Torre-Bueno, J. R. de la. 1923. "A Saldid genus new to the United States and a new species, with notes on other water bugs from the Adirondacks." *Bulletin of the Brooklyn Entomological Society* 18, 149–154.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/97308>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/177984>

#### **Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

#### **Sponsored by**

Smithsonian

#### **Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: In Copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: New York Entomological Society

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

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>.